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MEDIUM-RANGE MISSILES 'DIRECTLY BEAR ON SALT II PROVISIONS'

LD241517 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 19 Oct 79 p 5 LD

[Article by SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA international observer G. Dadyants: "Operation Pershing II"]

[Text] The new Soviet peace initiative has placed the question of the meaning and nature of the "American military presence" in Europe on the agenda of international relations with full force. Will new American nuclear missiles be deployed on the territory of West European countries, or not? The destiny of European and international detente depends to a great extent on this question.

NATO strategists assert that a "dangerous preponderance of forces" in favor of the Warsaw Pact countries has emerged in Europe recently. And they therefore try to justify the need to rearm NATO troops in terms of "Moscow's nuclear arms buildup" and the "violation of the balance of forces in Europe."

In his Berlin speech L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, convincingly proved the groundlessness of the propaganda ballyhoo that has been raised in the West. He stressed in all seriousness that in the last 10 years the number of medium-range nuclear weapon carriers on the territory of the European part of the Soviet Union has not been increased by a single missile or a single aircraft. On the contrary, the number of launching installations and also the yield of the missiles' explosive charges has even fallen slightly. The number of medium-range bombers has also been reduced.

In other words the Soviet Union, true to the defensive nature of its military doctrine, is not only not building up but, on the contrary, is reducing its nuclear devices in Europe to the strict limits of essential defense. This is in complete accordance with the line toward military detente pursued by the CPSU and the Soviet state.

Western propaganda eagerly seizes on any fabrications, however fantastic, by NATO generals on the mythical "Soviet threat" to the West.

Who needs this, and why? Only those who have a direct interest in the production of new types of weapons and their deployment on West European territory. Specifically, I refer to the American military-industrial complex, and also to Pentagon strategists.

Toward the end of last year reports suddenly appeared in the American press that the U.S. National Security Council is examining the question of accelerating the production of one or several types of ground-based medium-range missiles intended for deployment in NATO's European theater. This, it was asserted, referred to the modernization of Pershing missiles already deployed in West Europe. Nothing unusual is happening, they say, only an old missile being replaced with an updated version.

But in practice this has turned out to be far from the case. The present Pershing 1 missile, with a 400-mile range, is being replaced with the Pershing II, with a range of 1,000 miles. Whereas the Pershing 1 is a weapon which could (conventionally) be used on the battlefield, the Pershing II is a weapon which can reach Soviet territory. In other words, as a result of the "modernization" a tactical weapon is being transformed into a strategic weapon. Not for nothing is it called "Eurostrategic."

It is clear that as a result of the deployment in West Europe of the "Eurostrategic" Pershing II missiles, and also the so-called "cruise missiles" with a range of about 1,500 miles, a fundamentally new strategic situation would be created in Europe. There would be up to 600 new American missiles which could reach Soviet territory.

The question immediately arises: What bearing does this have on the provisions of the SALT II treaty which American leaders speak of adhering to and which has been unanimously supported by all leaders of NATO countries? Formally, it would seem, none at all. The treaty's provisions do not extend to medium-range weapons. But in practice it has a very direct bearing on them.

In actual fact the SALT II treaty limits strategic offensive arms, that is, nuclear devices which can reach the territory of the United States and the Soviet Union. But in practice it turns out that the Americans, while imposing limitations on their intercontinental missiles, want to compensate for them with "Eurostrategic" missiles. The fact that these devices will formally belong to the NATO bloc and not to the Pentagon does not alter the case.

The whole question is whether it is a coincidence that the fuss about Pershing II missiles began at precisely the moment when the SALT II talks were coming to an end. It seems the Americans are trying to insure by hook or by crook that they have strategic superiority over the Soviet Union.

Do the leaders of West European countries understand what a dangerous game the Pentagon is involving them in? In essence, in deploying in West European countries nuclear missiles which can reach the USSR's territory it is making them hostage to American adventurist policy.

It is not surprising that operation Pershing II is progressing only with difficulty in West Europe. The United States had to twist its partners' arms in the full sense of the word to make them agree to the "modernization" of nuclear missiles. Ultimately, under Washington's pressure a closed session of high-ranking representatives of NATO countries was held in Brussels at which a plan was approved in principle for deploying on the territory of West European countries about 600 "Eurostrategic" (that is, American) devices targeted on the Soviet Union and other socialist community countries.

And just when it seemed that all was prepared, the Soviet proposals emerged unexpectedly. Naturally they caused confusion in NATO headquarters. And how! After all, they are a direct blow to American strategic plans.

Pentagon propaganda had to display particular resourcefulness in these conditions. It armed itself not only with new versions of the "Soviet threat" myth, but also direct lies and the shameless distortion of facts. The Soviet proposals are declared "inadequate" and are called a "trap for the West." The main interested party--the U.S. military-industrial complex--lies behind all this. It, of course, will not give back the $42 million allocated for the "modernization" of the Pershings in 1979, nor will it renounce the $144.8 billion allocated for these purposes in 1980.

"The Soviet leader's proposals were put forward when the NATO alliance had already made its decision," Britain's THE GUARDIAN laments hypocritically. This is not true; the official decision has still not been made. It need not be adopted by the December NATO Council session, if the European NATO countries understand their national interests correctly and prefer them to the interests of American military concerns. It need not be adopted, if West European leaders realize that U.S. military doctrine is jeopardizing West Europe.

As L.I. Brezhnev said in Berlin, "we hope that realism, statecraft and ultimately simple commonsense will prevail."

ZAGLADIN SAYS PERSHING MISSILE DEPLOYMENT WOULD VIOLATE SALT

LD250903 Milan L'UNITA in Italian 23 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[Carlo Benedetti undated interview in Moscow with CPSU Central Committee International department Deputy Chief Vadim Zagladin: "Moscow Explains Position on Missiles and Negotiations"]

[Text] Moscow--The Soviets' willingness to negotiate with the Americans and the other Western states on the missiles issue; concern for the future of detente and the stance adopted by the Americans; concern about the future of SALT II and its possible future violation in connection with the Pershing II and cruise missiles; confirmation of the willingness to cooperate; these are the subjects of an interview which Vadim Zagladin, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department and candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee, has granted to L'UNITA.

The meeting took place at CPSU Central Committee headquarters on the Staraya Ploshchad, near the Kremlin. Zagladin was keen to explain first the Soviet position on the U.S. proposal to deploy Pershing II and cruise missiles and to explain a few points concerning the USSR'S missiles, specifically the SS20.

"The Soviet missiles now being discussed in the West," the Soviet representative said, "really are of a new kind, compared to existing missiles. But they are not qualitatively new; they are medium-range missiles modernized on the basis of those we have deployed since the late fifties, which we were forced to produce at that time in response to the emergence of U.S. armaments in the immediate vicinity of our country."

"When people in the West talk about missiles called SS20s and the innovatory element in these missile, they say that they are mobile missiles. This is true. But practically all the U.S. missiles located in areas close to the USSR are mobile. Therefore, from this viewpoint we are doing no more than responding to a threat which those missiles have already constituted for a long time."

[Question] Western sources point out that the SS20s have multiple warheads and that this too changes the agreed balances.

[Answer] Unlike the old missiles, the SS20s do indeed have multiple warheads. This is true, but, as Comrade Brezhnev said in his recent speech in Berlin on 6 October, the total number of missiles in the USSR has not only not increased in recent years but has in fact been reduced, just as the yield of their nuclear payloads has been reduced. Having said that, it must be stressed that the United States, which has about 1,200 missiles located near our borders, has a much greater number of nuclear warheads than that. Therefore, even from this viewpoint we are merely responding to what the West already has at its disposal.

Therefore I can state that the emergence of our SS20s has not altered the overall balance of forces, which is now characterized by parity. And here I must also explain the following: It is not true that the decision to produce new U.S. missiles and deploy them in Western Europe is a response to the production of the Soviet SS20 missiles. Back on 2 February FRG Foreign Minister Apel declared in an interview with the paper WESTFAELISCHE RUNDSCHAU that NATO decided in 1975 to improve its nuclear forces in Europe, long before the emergence of the SS20 missile.

[Question] But is the Soviet Union willing to undertake global or partial negotiations? Are there any opportunities for negotiations, bearing in mind the present situation?

[Answer] The USSR has confirmed several times that it is willing to conduct negotiations with the United States and the other Western states on the problems affecting all kinds of types of weapons. And this was aslo stated officially by the Warsaw Pact in November 1978. At present, as Brezhnev said in Berlin and also in his discussions with the members of the Socialist International working group on disarmament, the Soviet Union is willing to negotiate on medium-range missiles within the context of SALT III. All this obviously remains in the present political and strategic situation.

[Question] What changes could occur if the new Pershing II and cruise missiles are deployed?

[Answer] Of course, the situation will change if the Pershing II and cruise missiles are deployed on West European territory. Undoubtedly the balance of forces on the continent will change, the existing party will be affected. And this will force the Warsaw Pact countries to adopt appropriate measures. But there is another point to be considered, namely that the attempt to deploy these American missiles in Europe is part of the maneuvering to sidestep the SALT II agreement. This agreement in fact establishes--in precise figures--parity between the Soviet Union and the United States in strategic nuclear weapons, that is, weapons capable of reaching the other contracting party's territory.

The American Pershing II and cruise missiles deployment of which is planned in Western Europe are capable of reaching the Soviet Union's territory and therefore cannot be considered weapons for tactical use or for use in the immediate territory of war operations: They are in fact a strategic weapon.Their deployment would substantially alter the existing parity between the USSR and the United States and would thus also violate the SALT II agreement. Clearly the USSR cannot ignore this circumstance.

[Question] The final question concerns what stance the USSR could adopt in the event that the U.S. Senate fails to ratify SALT II.

[Answer] The ratification of an international agreement is a sovereign concern of every state. The U.S. Senate will take whatever decision it believes opportune. Everything depends, therefore, on the political choice made by the majority of the senators. Of course, refusal to ratify or an undermining of SALT II would nullify the results of a vast amount of work carried out over several years and would inevitably have the most negative consequences both in terms of another arms race and the future of detente itself.

Of course, under the new conditions the Soviet Union would not cease to struggle for peace and for the peoples' security, to halt the arms race and to avert war. But the conditions for waging this struggle would be more difficult.

EUROMISSILES ISSUE AND NATO 'PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN'

LD241233 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Oct 79 p 3 LD

[Col M. Ponomarev "Military-Political Review": "NATO Is Playing With Fire"]

[Text] The news agencies have disseminated a report that a representative American delegation headed by D. Aaron, deputy assistant to the U.S. President for national security affairs, has set off on a tour of West European countries. [paragraph continues]

After the FRG, the delegation will visit Britain, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands. Its main purpose is to persuade the European partners in the North Atlantic bloc to adopt American plans for the deployment of new nuclear missile system on the territory of a number of West European states, and also to discuss other measures to further strengthen the NATO machine.

Should this be regarded as, in effect, the White House's answer to the new Soviet initiative put forward in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the Berlin celebrations? While talking about the "existence of positive elements" in the Soviet proposals and the intention of "thoroughly studying" and "profoundly analyzing" them, the U.S. administration and NATO leadership are overall gambling in practice on continuing and even stepping up the arms race. In a risky attempt to change the world strategic situation, Washington is adopting decisions on further increasing military expecditure--to $141.2 billion in fiscal 1980, creating MX mobile ICBMs, speeding up the construction of Trident nuclear submarines and constructing another Nimitz class nuclear-powered aircraft carrier carrying 95 aircraft with nuclear weapons.

And the U.S. strategic forces already possess tremendous might. There are 1,054 intercontinental strategic missiles deployed in position already, many of them MIRVed. Each of the 41 American nuclear submarines carries 16 ballistic missiles, and each missile has up to 14 independently targeted nuclear warheads. The United States has about 600 B-52 strategic bombers, each of which can carry up to 20 nuclear missiles at a time. Moreover, the Pentagon is planning to adopt a new type of wide-bodied aircraft which will be able to carry up to 75 cruise missiles each.

A tremendous military potential, including nuclear potential, is possessed by NATO Allied Armed Forces in Europe and above all the American troops are their basis. There, as is known, there are more than 8,000 American nuclear warheads and more than 3,000 delivery vehicles. West German territory has been transformed into a particularly mighty military bridehead for the North Atlantic bloc. Here, according to FRG press data, there are 7,000 nuclear warheads and bloc troops totalling 874,000 men, armed with about 10,000 tanks and a large number of aircraft and other types of combat hardware and weapons.

The Pentagon is now pushing through plans to transform Western Europe into a launchpad for American missiles targeted on the USSR. And it is no secret that by no means the smallest role in preparing these dangerous plans is allotted to the FRG.

What specifically is it a question of? Of replacing 70 American Pershing missiles deployed on FRG territory, which have a range of 650-750 km, with Pershing II missiles with a range of at least couble, or even treble that distance. Of deploying another 38 such missiles on the territory of other West European countries--Belgium, the Netherlands and Italy. Of deploying in Britain and a number of other bloc countries 484 cruise missiles with an even longer range than the Pershing II. And both the Pershings and the cruise missiles are to be equipped with nuclear warheads.

These intentions are examined by a group of high-ranking NATO experts. They recommended that the bloc countries approve the American plan. The recommendations will be examined at the forthcoming session of NATO's Nuclear Planning Group and by the parliaments of the states involved. The final decision will be taken by the participants in the winter North Atlantic Council session, which opens in Brussels 10 December.

The sinister plans of the champions of the arms race are arousing fierce indignation among the European public. They are quite definitely opposed to a new deterioration in the situation in Europe--which the deployment of American medium-range nuclear missiles there would inevitably entail.

An opportunity for avoiding this deterioration is offered by the Soviet peace initiative put forward in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech in Berlin. It is no accident that it has received such powerful support from the socialist community countries, wide circles of the West European public and sensible Western politicians. To prevent the deployment of new American nuclear missile systems, not to allow the NATO leadership to change the strategic situation on the continent and upset the established equilibrium of forces in Europe, and to thwart attempts to insure military superiority for the North Atlantic bloc--these are the demands of those who value lasting peace and the peoples' genuine security.

In the face of these demands the Atlanticists are resorting to various propaganda tricks. One is the attempt to denigrate the Soviet proposals, distort their meaning and slander the foreign policy of the USSR and other socialist states. "A Soviet trap for Europe," London's THE DAILY TELEGRAPH cries hysterically, "an initiative of no great military significance," Paris' LE MONDE echoes.

Another Atlanticist trick is the attempt to depict Pentagon plans for deploying new nuclear missile weapons systems in Western Europe as some kind of harmless NATO "upgrading", as an insignificant "modernization" of existing arms. This hypocritical trick is resorted to with particular frequency by West German Foreign Minister H.D. Genscher. He and those like him wish to portray American intentions, on the one hand, as something routine, of no greater significance than changing the color of the piping and tabs on military uniforms, and on the other, to make them a trump card at forthcoming talks with the Soviet Union. Following Mr Genscher's strange logic, in order to disarm and before disarming, it is necessary to pile up mountains of lethal weapons on European soil.

Even certain bourgeois press organs have been forced to take a critical attitude to such tricks. Officials, the New York TIMES wrote, for instance, "are striking a perfidious blow in portraying the Soviet call for arms control as a propaganda trick and calling on NATO members to approve the plan for deploying 572 cruise missiles and medium-range Pershing missiles."

The defenders of a new round in the arms race, not confining themselves to a broad propaganda campaign, have organized a series of conferences and sessions to intimidate and confuse the public still further and win over those who are hesitating. We recall the 25th assembly of the Atlantic Alliance Association held in Washington, the Brussels colloquium of representatives of the 7 NATO countries belonging to the Western European Union [WEU] and the meeting between the British, French and FRG defense ministers in Hamburg.

"The Atlantic alliance," the participants in the Washington assembly said in their resolution, "is entering a dangerous period, perhaps the most dangerous period it has ever faced." Where did the orthodox Atlanticists see the danger? In the fact that the new Soviet initiative leads to no more and no less than...the "unilateral disarmament" of NATO. It is impossible to tell how they reached that conclusion. But their formula for avoiding the "tragedy" hanging over the bloc is known. Z. Brzezinski mentioned it in his speech: to choose "speedy effective action"--again in the form of deploying those American medium-range missiles capable of hitting Soviet territory. The WEU colloquium also came out in favor of this plan, and also in favor of the speedy equipping of NATO armed forces with other types of weapons.

The defense ministers of the three NATO countries also agreed on expanding the North Atlantic bloc's military preparations. They discussed and agreed on their position at the forthcoming NATO Council session which is to approve the plan for deploying American missiles in Western Europe and also elaborated their own concrete program for creating new types of weapons in addition to that plan. The "memorandum on mutual understanding" signed by the ministers speaks of new types of planes and helicopters for NATO and new types of missiles.

The position of Britain, the FRG, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands with respect to the new American plans has not yet been officially declared. But judging by press reports, the governments in several of those countries are already inclined to approve U.S. intentions. Thus Britain, THE DAILY TELEGRAPH wrote, has "given its consent to the deployment of American ground-based cruise missiles." Most members of the Italian Cabinet, leaders of the FRG Government and the Netherlands defense minister are also inclined to give their consent. Those who are still hesitating are to be urged on by the American delegation headed by D. Aaron.

However, it is still not too late to stop the dangerous development of events. There is still a real opportunity to substantially lessen military confrontation on the European Continent. It is not up to the Soviet Union and its allies. It is up to the NATO countries.

'HISTORIC RESPONSIBILITY' BORNE BY NATO LEADERS

LD241315 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 20 Oct 79 p 3 LD

[Observer Oleg Anichkin "International Review": "The USSR's Good Example"]

[Excerpts] The Soviet Union's proposals put forward in L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the Berlin celebrations are regarded everywhere as the most important initiative of recent years, demonstrating the Soviet Union's love of peace and its good will. They form an all-embracing program aimed at insuring security in Europe and throughout the world, a program which opens up a clear prospect of giving European peoples the opportunity to live in conditions of peace, and the Soviet Union is demonstrating its love for peace in concrete form, not in words, but in deeds. An editorial in the Washington POST noted that L.I. Brezhnev "submitted for general consideration by the world public the great strategic problem of the eighties--arms control in Europe." It is now difficult for official Western spokesman to shrug off the important new Soviet initiative, since there is an associated risk of appearing in an unfavorable light in the eyes of the peoples of the European Continent, which longs for deliverance from the costly arms race and to live in peace. One way or another they have been forced to admit that the Soviet proposals, to use their restrained language, "contain positive elements." In the event of the deployment of American medium-range missiles the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries would be forced to adopt the necessary measures with a view to strengthening their defense capability and restoring the long-established equilibrium of forces in Europe which would be violated. As a result the Western actions would probably lead to the eruption of a new arms race spiral, and in place of the development of the detente process we would witness the undermining of the emerging development of mutual trust among the countries of the European Continent. As a result the political and military-strategic situation on the continent may change, with all the ensuing dangerous consequences for the European peoples. L.I. Brezhnev drew special attention to this in his speech. He noted: The implementation of NATO's plans would inevitably exacerbate the situation in Europe and do a great deal to poison the international atmosphere in general. The leaders of the NATO countries now bear a historic responsibility. The peoples are waiting to see whether they will respond with constructive steps to the Soviet Union's good example, or whether they will prefer to plunge Europe into a new stage of the arms race.

'STUDIO NINE' PARTICIPANTS DISCUSS BREZHNEV PROPOSALS, DETENTE

LD241100 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1510 GMT 13 Oct 79 LD

["Studio Nine" program with Valentin Sergeyevich Zorin, Soviet radio and television political observer; Army Gen Sergey Fedorovich Akhromeyev, first deputy chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces; and Valentin Mikhaylovich Falin, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Information Department]

[Text] [Zorin] Good afternoon, comrades. We are meeting once more at Studio Nine at the Ostankino Television Center to talk about important problems of world politics.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's speech at the celebrations of the GDR's 30th anniversary has become an event of paramount international importance and it would be no exaggeration to say that in recent days all other events--including important events in the world arena--have been overshadowed.

The resolution of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo on the results of the visit of the Soviet party and government delegation to the GDR emphasizes that the visit of the Soviet delegation to take part in the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the republic became an event of outstanding importance for further strengthening the cooperation between the CPSU and the SED, the USSR and the GDR, and also for the essential interests of peace and international security.

The resolution also says that it is noticeable that NATO member-countries, while recognizing the positive character of the Soviet initiative, are still hunting for farfetched arguments to implement the dangerous plans for placing new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe. This would be a disturbance of the balance of military forces and military groupings on the continent.

I would like to begin our today's talk by asking you, Valentin Mikhaylovich Falin, to dwell on the question of the importance of the event for the development of the political process on the international arena, and on the reasons which are the foundation for our foreign policy initiatives implemented in coordination with friends and allies of our country.

Brezhnev Proposals

[Falin] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in his speech on 6 October in Berlin drew attention to the fact that in recent months there has been a stirring up of militarist aggressive circles who have decided to achieve a change in the correlation of forces, which would in fact be equal to a change in the strategic situation in Europe--and not only in Europe. Leonid Ilich emphasized that this is a question of undermining the edifice of European peace and of undermining its very foundations. Those who would now like to turn events back are aiming not only at the fruits of detente already achieved--the fruits enjoyed by all peoples and not only the peoples of socialist countries and the peoples of Western Europe, but the peoples of the United States and the peoples of other countries. The aggressive circles are aiming at the idea of detente itself, the idea of cooperation, the principle of the peaceful coexistence of states having different social structures.

It is not a question of some secondary, subordinate matters; it is a question of fundamental questions of principles in the development of the international situation and the European situation. It is a question of whether it will be possible--and if possible, to what extent--to continue the positive development in the 1980's, which was insured because of the mutual efforts of states with different systems and sometimes on the basis of agreements and treaties for which compromises were necessary.

Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, USSR foreign minister and member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, emphasized quite correctly at the last session of the UN General Assembly that the world long ago crossed the line after which the arms race became really lunatic. It is not just lunacy but a crime to continue the arms race and not to concentrate on containing and limiting the arms race and then to begin genuine disarmament.

Our country stands for political detente and for military detente. It does not only speak about it. We are implementing far-reaching measures which will help to make this detente a reality and not just a dream. In fact, this is the essence and the sense and the main point of the initiatives and proposals formulated by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in Berlin.

Of course, we must ask ourselves whether this essence and sense of Leonid Ilich's speech were understood by those to whom our call was addressed. Allow me to quote just a few statements: "Leonid Ilich Brezhnev submitted a great strategic problem of the eighties for public discussion," wrote the Washington POST. "The Soviet leader has changed the accents on the policy of detente," emphasized the West German newspaper FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU. The Japanese newspaper YOMIURI said that the proposal for the withdrawal of Soviet forces is a large-scale, unprecedented event. The public statements made by leading figures in the United States, the FRG and Britain say that the proposals of the Soviet Union are really important and are welcomed.

However, NATO leaders try not to go beyond these general statements, saying that the importance of Leonid Ilich's statements needs careful study, corresponding consultations within the NATO bloc, and so on, just as long as nobody in NATO speaks for himself. Thinking is never prohibited. It is even highly recommended. But if we analyze what is said by some NATO leaders after thought, we note that after general acknowledgement of a seemingly positive kind, they concentrate basically not on how to constructively react to the Soviet initiative, but on how to get rid of it, how to avoid it and how to prevent a constructive discussion and study on any practical level.

[Zorin] Valentine Mikhaylovich has reminded us of the Soviet initiatives and the Soviet proposals. The world press has also said much about the military aspects of these proposals.

I would like to ask you, Sergey Fedorovich Akhromeyev, as a professional soldier, the following question: Naturally, our Soviet military initiatives about which Leonid Ilich spoke in Berlin are connected with definite processes including the processes in the Western military sphere. Could you tell us what the essence is of the qualitative charges in NATO's military preparations in recent years--if there is reason to speak of such qualitative changes?

Modernization of NATO Forces

[Akhromeyev] The military preparations of the NATO bloc and the increase in weapons in the bloc, particularly in nuclear weapons, is not a new question. The rise of the bloc's aggressive preparations and the arms race were legalized by the governments of the NATO member-states by the 1978, long-term 15-year military program. The United States and other NATO member-countries maintain major strategic medium-range devices as well as U.S. forward-based systems in Europe. The number of forward-based systems alone exceeds 1,200 and all these systems are constantly being updated and improved.

[Zorin] Sergey Fedorovich, excuse me. What do these 1,200 forward-based systems include?

[Akhromeyev] The forward-based systems are primarily carrier-borne aircraft which are in constant military service in the seas close to Europe. Second, it includes a large number of tactical air force aircraft situated on the territories of Britain and the FRG. Finally, it includes missiles and the nuclear artillery of the U.S. land forces. These make up the total of the forward-based systems with which the United States can strike at the Soviet Union's territory if a worldwide conflagration suddenly breaks out.

We have always been alarmed at the existence of these systems on European territory and have said so to our opponents in the talks--the United States.

In the last 10-12 years, NATO's general purpose armed forces have been increasing in numbers and have particularly improved in quality.

The quantity of nuclear ammunition in Europe and also their delivery means has almost doubled in that period. Tactical air force aircraft have been completely updated, as well as the missile systems and the nuclear artillery of the land forces. Their number has increased 20 percent--by 3 times. The tactical missile systems with which the NATO army has equipped have been changed for improved missiles such as the Pershing, having a longer range and greater precision. The land forces are being equipped with new tanks produced in the United States, the FRG and Britain, which are one and one-half to two times superior in their features--such as firepower, maneuverability and defense--to the tanks currently in use. The aircraft with which tactical air forces are equipped are being replaced with the newest models of fighter-bombers such as the F-14 and F-15, which could decide the entire complex of military actions performed by military forces in the theater of military actions. At the same time, the aircraft which directly support the land forces during military actions are also being updated. A-10 aircraft and new military helicopters are arriving.

The bloc leaders, and in particular Brown, U.S. secretary of defense, make no secret of the fact that the NATO bloc seeks overall military superiority in Europe over the Warsaw Treaty member-states by the mid-1980's. At the same time as improving the quality of weapons, enormous stores of U.S. weapons are being created in Europe. I do not mean the weapons with which the U.S. Army is equipped in Europe, but the stores of weapons intended for the armies which could be transferred from U.S. territory.

Work to equip all European theaters of military action is being performed on a wide front. Therefore intensive military preparations are in progress in NATO member-countries over an enormous territory, from the northern regions of Norway to Turkey.

The organizational structure and the system of military command of the armed forces are being improved and an intensive and operative military training of the forces and staffs is being carried out.

It is important to note one peculiarity; the command and staff and armed exercises carried out by NATO in Europe have a wide strategic scope. They cover northern and Western Europe and the region of the Mediterranean. They last for up to 30 to 40 days and are carried out under the direct command of the NATO supreme command in Europe. In fact, they are a practical training of staffs and armies for the development of plans for military action in Europe. Naturally, this is very alarming. What is more, the report delivered by the U.S. defense secretary to the U.S. Congress on the military budget for the 1980s says that the strategy of the U.S. and NATO envisages the possibility of being the first to use nuclear weapons in case this is expedient. This was said by the defense secretary and therefore the corresponding Pentagon planning organs obviously implement these directives as corresponding plans.

[Falin] What is expediency? Who determines it? This word is so vague and can be interpreted in so many ways that one could envisage anything in the word expediency.

[Zorin] If you explain this term in military language, what would it be?

[Akhromeyev] What shall I say? A country's armed forces are there for the defense of that country's state interests. If the country pursues state interests which are to the detriment of other countries and which can be considered aggressive, I think there is no need for detailed explanations of what these plans could be.

[Zorin] Sergey Fedorovich, what you have said has basically concerned Europe. I would like to ask whether, in this case, Europe is a kind of exceptional region in the military activity of Western powers, or whether it is part of a wider activity of Western militaristic circles?

[Akhromeyev] It is a legitimate question of course. Unfortunately--unfortunately for us--Europe is not an exception in the Pentagon's plans for a further increase in the arms race. We are witnesses of activity, at least on the part of U.S. military leaders, on a global scale and primarily in the regions round the border of the Soviet Union. Everyone knows of the growth of the U.S. military presence in Japan and their bases on its territory. The military preparations of Japan itself are increasing. The supporters of the resurgence of its military potential do not limit themselves to reliance on the numerous bases of the United States, but establish new ones and jointly develop a comprehensive military cooperation with the United States. The U.S. forces continue to remain in South Korea, as you know. Recently, the U.S. penetration in the ASEAN countries has increased. There are attempts to change this union with peaceful trends into a military bloc. Some NATO member-countries are preparing to deliver modern weapons and military technology to China and in this way strengthen China's military preparations against neighboring states.

The Near and Middle East attracts especially great attention from the Pentagon's leadership. The United States has started--and they have announced it quite officially, at the highest level--to create a fast-reaction corps consisting of several divisions and large forces of tactical air force aircraft and ships totaling more than 100,000 personnel to insure their interests, the suppression of the national liberation movement and interference in the affairs of other states. This is, in fact, a corps to act as policeman in various regions of the world.

The U.S. penetration in the zones of the Indian Ocean is increasing and widescale work on the modernization of military bases on Diego Garcia Island is in progress. A permanent Indian Ocean fifth fleet is being formed to control maritime communications and to exercise pressure on states in this region.

[Falin] Harold Brown, U.S. secretary of defense, recently uttered a significant sentence: He said that in a certain sense, the U.S. border follows a wide arc encompassing important regions all the way from northern Norway to Japan and the Aleutian Islands. The fact that the Americans are building a new state border enclosing in their sphere of interest--if not sphere of influence--practically the entire world, except the socialist countries, is itself proof of a great deal. However, he probably explains such a fact by saying that the United States now has more than 2,500 military projects and establishments in the world. Around the Soviet Union border the United States has placed--if my memory is correct--386 military bases. U.S. military personnel or armed forces are in 110 countries of the world, and in all, the United States has 500,000 servicemen abroad.

No other state in the world can be compared in any way to the United States concerning the scale of this outside-continental--in the U.S. sense of the word--activity and the military assimilation of the territory of other states.

[Zorin] Valentin Mikhaylovich, you have already mentioned the reaction to the initiatives which Leonid Ilich put forward on behalf of our state. You spoke about support and about what you called careful reaction. I would like to ask you to evaluate the recent statements made by the more authoritative and leading figures in the NATO member-states. It is known that there have already been such statements. President Carter made a statement and so did some other leading figures.

[Falin] Primarily, the fact that draws attention is that the fullest and most detailed statements have so far been made by representatives of two countries: the U.S. representatives: President Carter, Vice President Mondale and Brzezinski, the president's national security adviser; and FRG representatives: Federal Chancellor Schmidt and Federal Foreign Minister Genscher have made statements.

What characterizes the statements by President Carter and other U.S. politicians? Together with a general recognition of the importance of the Soviet Union's initiative and a few words and sentences contained in these statements in respect of the Soviet Union's decision to withdraw 1,000 tanks, 20,000 servicemen and a quantity of other military technology from the GDR within 1 year, the attention is basically fixed on some not so positive sides of the Soviet proposal--as President Carter said. What is meant by that? Both the President and his officials consider that one of these nonpositive matters is the possible influence of the Soviet proposals on the further course of the discussion by the NATO bloc on plans for the positioning of new U.S. systems of missiles and nuclear weapons in Europe.

There is also the possibility of a negative reaction primarily from the Western European public to a refusal--which the NATO bloc would like to formulate--to start immediate talks with the Soviet Union and to prefer a more complicated way. This more complicated way would be a proposal to adopt a NATO plan to position about 600 missile carriers in Western Europe and then to propose talks to the Soviet Union on ways and means of reducing the potential of both sides.

It must be said that President Carter and other U.S. representatives have taken a rather offhand way with the real proposals we have made. U.S. leaders confirm their intention to strive to persuade their Western European allies to permit the positioning of qualitatively new weapons systems, which qualitatively change the strategic situation in Europe, on their territories and primarily on FRG territory. This is stated in a veiled form and not as directly as in other cases. Why must we primarily speak of qualitative changes? Why must we emphasize that it is not a case of updating weapons? Why do we have here a substitution of the concept, in fact? A play on the ignorance of the wide audience? What is updating weapons? It is updating and replacing a system with another system and this process is continuous in the West, as Sergey Fedorovich has said already, and the weapons fulfill the same functions. However, here it is a matter of creating new weapons and the placing of new weapons systems on European territory for the solution of new strategic problems.

In fact, if we uncover the essence of what is happening, this is what it is about: According to the SALT II treaty on the limitation of strategic attack weapons, the Soviet Union and the United States have taken upon themselves definite and limiting obligations on the number of carriers, on the number of warheads on these carriers and on the parameter for further improvements of this type of weapon--the most dangerous of all existing weapons. Yes, that is so. But now there is an attempt to bypass these limitations according to the SALT II treaty. That is on the U.S. side. It is to solve several problems set by U.S. military doctrines with the aid of the so-called Eurostrategic medium-range weapons systems which--and it is not concealed--are aimed at the territory of the Soviet Union and are intended to hit targets and objectives on our territory.

I would like to draw your attention to one more detail. Sergey Fedorovich will probably explain this with more competence later, whether it is so or not. No NATO publications have so far mentioned what sort of warheads these missiles will have. There is talk of about 600 cruise and Pershing missiles having a range of from 1,800 to 2,500 kilometers; but the question is not raised as to whether these missiles will have monobloc [monoblochnyye] or multiple, independently targeted warheads.

[Akhromeyev] Valentin Mikhaylovich, I will not wait but will tell you now that it seems that the time has gone when a country such as the United States, so powerful economically and scientifically, could create missiles with a monobloc warhead. Of course, if such missiles are installed [words indistinct] these warheads will have a high precision.

[Falin] It seems that one can be realistic and proceed from this. It does not seem necessary to accept the figure of 600, but we should rather proceed from greater and more serious matters as the real factor we have to deal with.

Let us ask ourselves a simple question: How would the United States react if we, the Soviet Union, having reached the SALT II treaty with them, began to bring medium-range weapons closer to their territory? If we, in fact, solved with this weapon the aims which are becoming more difficult to solve now, with strategic weapons coming under the SALT II treaty. Since the Americans must ask such a question of themselves--if only in their internal analyses--then in answering it they cannot fail to understand how we, the Soviet Union, will react or would react to the approach of military danger to the Soviet Union's borders. I consider it very important to state this since it is an extremely important question. It is a question of observing the principle which was agreed upon by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and President Carter in Vienna. This principle says that neither side will strive for military superiority since to strive for military superiority would lead to a destabilization of relations not only between the United States and the Soviet Union, but also to a destabilization of the international situation in general.

In this context, I have to say that the logic of some West German deliberations on the subject of medium-range weapons is very questionable--not to use a harsher expression, even if it would be a more correct expression.

Let us consider one report on a statement. The press service of the Free Democratic Party which, as you know, is a member of the Bonn government coalition, has published a report on a speech delivered at a session of the party's parliamentary faction by Foreign Minister Genscher. Genscher called the NATO decisions being prepared as directed--so he described it--at the insurance of a balance of forces and as urgent and necessary. He said that all NATO partners must recognize their responsibility in this matter; European NATO allies must not forget that positive decisions on the question of updating tactical nuclear weapons and measures for arms control would improve the chances of the SALT II treaty being ratified by the U.S. Senate. So you could say that the sequence is in reverse; he began with a sad ending and concluded with a cheerful beginning.

The updating of the U.S. nuclear weapons and the introduction into Western Europe of new U.S. nuclear missile systems is, according to the minister's words, one of the conditions for the ratification of the SALT II treaty. Such logic is definitely not conducive to making mutual understanding on questions which cannot interest the FRG or its people easier or simpler.

The opponents of agreement, the opponents of cooperation, honest cooperation, would like to transfer all discussion of the most important problems raised by Leonid Ilich to the level of futile propaganda or, better, to the level of polemics. They consider polemics and propaganda as the way of avoiding a discussion of the essence these proposals.

[Zorin] Drown everything in talk?

[Falin] Drown everything in a sea of words. As a Western official said: Drown it in questions, counterquestions, elucidations, explanations and discussions. The parliamentarians of Western countries are experts at this.

I can say that if anyone thinks that the Soviet Union will accept an invitation to participate in such futile discussions, such futile propaganda, they are greatly mistaken. These Western leaders can try to get around themselves and each other and they can organize discussions in their family circle, so to say, but they will not get such support from our side.

Our aim is not propaganda. Our aim is concrete, businesslike realistic talks with the purpose of achieving real results. The general sense of what is being done in this respect concerning the attempts to silence and overshadow the soviet proposals, or to distort them, consist of the following: It is necessary to persuade the public that there is no particular urgency or essence in the discussion of the problems raised by the Soviet side. Everything can take its normal course as planned by the NATO strategists. Let everything proceed and things will return to the proper course at the proper time.

[Zorin] We have already spoken about attempts to distort the Soviet initiatives and to misinterpret them. I would like to ask you, Sergey Fedorovich, to dwell in particular on the military aspects of the new Soviet initiatives proposed by Leonid Ilich in Berlin.

Military Aspects of Soviet Initiatives

[Akhromeyev] In his Berlin speech, Leonid Ilich unfolded a wide program of measures directed not only at political detente, but at military detente as well. The proposals put forward by Leonid Ilich outline realistic and quite new practical steps for relaxing military confrontation in the world as a whole and particularly in Europe.

Now these proposals are known by the entire world. It would seem that everything is clear. One could expect reciprocal measures in this sphere from the West. The first statements so far by even the most responsible leaders, in particular by U.S. President Carter, unfortunately are not hopeful. The President's statement maintains that the reduction in the number of [missile] launching sites of this type [not specified] in the Soviet Union is natural since the old launching sites are being replaced by new ones, which NATO calls SS-20.

Yes, there is updating in progress. However, the same updating is in progress in NATO's armed forces on the widest scale. However, we are reducing the number of missiles and medium-range bombers at the same time.

Leonid Ilich said quite clearly that we are reducing the general nuclear power of these systems. What is the reduction of general nuclear power? The Pentagon can fully estimate it. Our generals have for many years worked together with representatives of the Pentagon at talks on the limitation of strategic weapons. We can imagine their competence and their knowledge in this sphere. If there was only good will, it could be established quite precisely that our proposals are a big advance in the sphere of military detente.

By the way, the President's specialists have failed him in one matter. I would like to think that it was not premeditated. The President said that the new, medium-range missiles have a greater range than those in operation. This is not so. A considerably part of the systems which have already been in operation for a long time have no less of a range than the missiles which will replace them. Our proposals on the reduction of the number of medium-range missiles are represented in this statement as nonessential. At the same time, the President said that the SS-20 missiles represent a particular danger because--and I quote verbatim--they cannot be detected and destroyed by a preventive blow if this entered into the plans of our allies.

[Zorin] This means that the question of the first preventive warning blow is asked openly?

[Akhromeyev] I am quoting verbatim, Valentin Sergeyevich. This is what President Carter said. I think that the allies were mentioned in passing. In fact, it must be a question of the Pentagon's plans. It is strange logic and reaction to our proposals for military detente and limitation--and on our side even reduction--of strategic medium-range systems in Europe. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev put forward a proposal of great importance on the unilateral withdrawal of a considerable contigent of Soviet forces from central Europe. Some people in the West, in particular Mr Pym, British secretary of state for defense, describe the readiness of the Soviet Union to unilaterally withdraw armed forces and weapons from GDR territory as a propaganda maneuver. The withdrawal of 20,000 servicemen and 1,000 tanks will not change the superiority of the Warsaw Pact member-states over the number of NATO armed forces in this region, so they say. One could remind them in this case that at one time, the Western countries proposed to us the withdrawal of 68,000 servicemen and 1,700 tanks at talks in Vienna about the reduction of armed forces and weapons in central Europe. The United States would withdraw 29,000 servicemen, 1,000 nuclear armaments, 36 Pershing launching sites and 54 nuclear-weapon carrying aircraft. Such an approach at the time was considered positive by NATO representatives. But unilateral measures for the withdrawal of 20,000 servicemen and 1,000 tanks and other military technology by us is propaganda.

No, it is not propaganda but realistic important and constructive steps in military detente. There is only the need for a positive reply to them instead of waiting for us to continue to disarm unilaterally. This is something that one unwillingly thinks about when one considers NATO leaders' statements.

Setting a good example, we naturally keep the principle of equality and equal security in force at the talks in Vienna. We are conducting these talks and probably will continue to conduct them, but we would like to see greater success.

[Zorin] Thank you, Sergey Fedorovich. I would like to ask another question in this connection. What is the reason? Why does the United States push Europe to this new turn in the arms race, which threatens to destabilize the situation, and at this stage when an agreement on the limitation of strategic weapons has been reached and the agreement was signed in Vienna?

[Akhromeyev] I think that this is a quite legitimate question which many people probably ask themselves. It is true: The SALT II treaty was signed. At the same time, an agreement was reached saying that during the SALT III talks a new, considerable reduction of strategic weapons is envisaged.

At the same time a new spiral in the arms race is taking place in Europe. Valentin Mikhaylovich has already said that even these 600 missiles do not mean only 600 warheads at all. That is, they are putting into operation a huge number of medium-range strategic weapons, and a new danger is arising on the USSR borders. What is the matter? Willy-nilly you get the following thought that probably some, maybe the most reactionary or aggressive, leaders have gotten the idea of resuming in their relations with the Soviet Union more or less the policy which was pursued in the 1950's. The arms race which is being planned in Europe seems to express, in military terms, the material backing of that policy which may be in the planning stage.

[Falin] There are different explanations about what is now being undertaken by the United States, and the explanations are those of prominent and influential people in the West, prominent scientists and parliamentarians.

Some think that the U.S. policy is more inclined to lean on strength, military strength, as a result of the relative weakening of U.S. economic and political power and the loss of some of its former influence. Others link the current arms race to which the United States is pushing Europe and the world as a whole to the fact that the Americans--American scientists, engineers and technicians--have prepared new weapons systems, and as they say new technology has emerged. The military-industrial complex demands that this weapon, despite all the resulting consequences arising from the introduction of this weapon by the armed forces on the military doctrines and policies of states and the international situation in general, be put into production. Apparently each of these arguments, and especially the last one, is not devoid of a grain of truth or of reason.

[Zorin] In this connection I would like to ask you, Valentin Mikhaylovich, to answer the following question: Is it possible to consider that the reactions of the NATO circles to the Soviet proposals are for the most part negative?

[Falin] I do not think that we need to establish NATO's position at this clearly intermediate state. Indeed, as Sergey Fedorovich also stated, thus far the statements of the prominent NATO leaders, and primarily the United States and the FRG, do not provide any comfort. We must not underestimate the influence which the Soviet Union's proposals are exerting and must objectively exert on the formation of the point of view of the leadership of these countries. There is no need to provide these proposals with all kinds of propaganda props and commentaries in order that they speak for themselves. The question is actually formulated very plainly: Either we choose one course--and we are offering them this course--a constructive, businesslike and realistic one; the course of negotiations, comparison of positions, the development of common settlements giving equal consideration to both sides' interests and primarily the interests in the field of security. The other course is that of confrontation and opposition to each others' interests. Leonid Ilich has clearly stated in Berlin that the Soviet Union and its friends cannot and will not watch the deployment of U.S. missiles of a new system in Western Europe with indifference.

[Zorin] Valentin Mikhaylovich, if the NATO countries really make such a decision to ignore the Soviet proposals and take the course of increasing their medium-range nuclear potential in Europe in their attempt to achieve military supremacy, then they probably should consider once more what Leonid Ilich said in his speech in Berlin: In this case we would have to carry out the necessary additional steps to improve our security, and we will have no other course.

[Falin] That is true. Naturally, the Soviet Union cannot act in any other way. No self-respecting government could make any other decision apart from the one mentioned by Leonid Ilich.

[Zorin] We are talking about the attempts being made to push Europe into a new spiral of the arms race, and each such spiral represents huge sums--astronomical sums--tens and hundreds of billions of dollars. These funds are extracted from the pockets of the taxpayers in capitalist countries. In order to force an ordinary man in the West to accept such sacrifices, they are undertaking the greatest mystification in the current history of mankind, a tremendous campaign connected with the so-called Soviet military threat.

This campaign is needed both in order to collect huge funds and in order to conceal the policy of those who are actually carrying out aggressive preparations, referrring to them not as aggressive preparations, but as a reaction to that threat. The plan outlined in Leonid Ilich's speech in Berlin deals a very serious blow to all this mystification, all those false conceptions of the Soviet military threat. I will quote again that statement of Leonid Ilich. He said we are not striving for military supremacy. It has never been our intention to threaten any state or group of states. Our strategic doctrine has a particularly defensive character. Now the question arises: Could such a statement have been made openly to the entire world by the Washington leaders? During the 35 years following the war there have been seven presidents in the White House and none of these have made such a statement and could not make it.

It would be interesting to ask the following question: Could President Carter now after Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's statement address the entire world and say that the U.S. strategic doctrine has a defensive character? One tends to think that this would be very difficult for him to do since in such a case he would directly contradict many statements by highly placed officials in Washington--you have quoted open statements by U.S. Defense Secretary Brown. There are many other such statements, and not only statements but practical steps. In this connection the talk must not be about the Soviet military threat, but the U.S. military threat to the world. Insofar as we have touched upon the question of the Soviet strategic doctrine, I would like to take the opportunity of your presence, Sergey Fedorovich in our Studio Nine today, to ask you to talk about the character of our Soviet military doctrine.

Soviet Military Doctrine

[Falin] Soviet military doctrine, which is the official view of the party and state leadership of our country concerning the problem of its defense from aggression, flows completely and fully from the peace-loving policy of the CPSU and our government. The Soviet Union, as Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the Central Committee of our party, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Defense Council of our country, has said it many a time--and he has again repeated it in his speech in Berlin--does not have and has not had the intention to threaten anyone. Our country will never take the road of aggression and will never raise the sword against other peoples. This statement was made by the leader of the state and chairman of the Defense Council. This has been said repeatedly as well by Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov, member of the Party Central Committee Politburo and minister of defense. By the way, this has also been said very recently by other prominent leaders of the armed forces of our country. Therefore, it should be very obvious that our military doctrine cannot be aggressive. It has a defensive orientation. Its purpose and tasks are to protect the socialist gains of the Soviet people and of our allies, providing peaceful conditions for our people in the building of communism in our country. This has been attested to by the over 60 year history of our country.

In this connection, I would like to draw attention to yet another more intentionally distorted argument of many NATO leaders and propagandists. While consciously distorting the essence of the question, they try to prove the aggressiveness of our country's military doctrine by citing the capability of the Soviet Armed Forces to carry out decisive and active offensive actions. But these are two separate questions. Official views concerning the protection of the country and the character of the war which a state may wage is one thing, and the character of the military actions for which the troops and the naval forces are being trained is another.

During military training, we actually train our forces in both defensive, offensive and other types of military actions. In other words, we are training our forces so that in the case of an attack by an aggressor against us or against our allies, the armed forces of the Soviet Union, jointly with the fraternal armies, would be in a position to effectively repulse the aggressor. Our love of peace, the exclusion of any kind of aggressive actions on our behalf and the capability to repulse and defeat an aggressor are merged together. This must be carefully considered by the lovers of military adventures.

[Zorin] During the past period, we have said many times that Europe is an example of the successes in the policy of relaxation of international tension. Today, we are witnessing the attempts by some circles to convert Europe into the field for a new spiral in the arms race. Valentin Mikhaylovich how do you explain such a contradiction?

[Falin] This is only an apparent paradox. The point is that in the detente process in Europe in the past, the Americans were not leading but were led. In their European policy, they followed but sometimes unwillingly, France, the FRG, and some other states which had found it inevitable--vitally inevitable for themselves--to strive for more normal relations with the socialist states than existed at the end of the 1960's. Second, I think that it would be correct to note once again that in the West European countries themselves, detente has by far not been accepted with applause and has not been accepted by all. In some states, and these include the FRG and Great Britian, the detente process has had a hard time opening its path. Powerful forces were opposed to the process, and they did not conceal for a minute that even though they had accepted those legislative acts which had gone through the parliaments and had come into force, they had not done so without reservations or without the desire to introduce certain amendments if and when they receive the opportunity. We must say that we will be able to evaluate Europe and the processes in Europe correctly and precisely if we link what is happening in Europe with the larger scale process taking place in the world. In the second half of the 1970's there was not an improvement but a worsening of the situation in some regions of the world. Let us take the Near and the Middle East, let us take some countries in the Far East, let us take the policy of China and let us take the complicated and sometimes very sickly processes occurring in Africa. Over many of these hang global problems which at first glance do not seem to have any direct relation to the military policy of states, but this is just at first glance: for example, global problems like those of energy, the shortage of oil and other primary sources of energy and the very rapid rise in the prices of these types of energy.

The United States already stated in 1973 and 1974 that it was determined to use armed force in order to insure the uninterrupted supply of resources for itself and its allies in the Middle East. It has repeated this several times in the subsequent period and the last time in 1978-79. The situation has become acute in the raw materials market; the struggle for raw materials has intensified. Together with this intensification of the struggle, there has been a revival of the ideas of distribution and redistribution of spheres of influence, markets and so forth--namely that which was thought to have retreated into the past and disappeared. Thus it is necessary to talk about Europe in a wider context in order to correctly understand the phenomena with which we have to deal. Nonetheless, the cornerstone of the policy of detente in Europe, as it was formulated in the 1970s, has not been affected completely. It is being threatened and this is true; it may be endangered and that is also true. But the European states, and all the states interested in stability and the continuity of the process of detente in Europe have the possibility of not allowing this. The Soviet proposals made by Leonid Ilich in Berlin offer a basis for continuing this constructive and positive work.

If we worked according to the logic of the NATO countries, if we were moved by the idea of spear against spear, it would no doubt be easier to say while hitting the table with a fist: Since it is that way we know how to respond and to respond strongly. We shall not withdraw 1,000 tanks and 20,000 military personnel from the GDR and offer other measures; we shall not propose the greatest and the most important steps for which we are ready, and that is why we propose them. I repeat: This no doubt would echo the logic of some NATO leaders. Thus, it was necessary to display the political courage and the determined fortitude of the Soviet leadership in order to state in Berlin what was said by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. It is not something that occurs on its own. There is nothing occurring on its own in politics.

The Soviet Union is firmly and steadfastly determined--despite the intrigues of the enemies of detente, despite the growing activities of the aggressive circles and maybe because of the increased activity of the aggressive circles--to act in a manner outlined by the 24th and 25th party congresses. We have no greater and more important task than to act in the interests of peace and in the name of peace, both now and in the future. In this connection, I would like to quote Leonid Ilich, not what he said in Berlin but what he said sometime earlier: Our efforts are directed, said the general secretary, at insuring that matters do not come either to the first or to the second strike, and that generally there will be no nuclear war. Our approach to these problems may be formulated as follows: The defense potential of the Soviet Union must be sufficient in order to prevent anyone risking to disturb our peaceful life. Our policy is not a course for weapons supremacy, but a course for their reduction and for the lessening of military confrontation.

[Zorin] What we have discussed demonstrates the exclusive importance of today's events. I would like to finish our discussion today with a quotation from the resolution of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo which says that the leaders of the Western countries must display a sense of responsibility and react to the example of the Soviet Union in a spirit of goodwill. The people are waiting for this. What concerns the Soviet Union, as was stated in Berlin by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, is to strive with all its energy and persistence to free the 1980's from suspicion and fear, and what is most important, from the arms race. This brings us to the end of our meeting today, and all I have to do is thank the participants in our discussion and thank our viewers. Thank you.

SOVIET RADIO-TV AGREEMENT WITH VISNEWS REPORTED

ID241509 Moscow TASS in English 1501 GMT 24 Oct 79 ID

[Text] Moscow, October 24--An agreement on cooperation between Soviet television and radio and the international television agency VISNEWS was signed here today. It provides for an exchange of television coverage of the most important events in the USSR and abroad.

STURUA HITS ADMINISTRATIONS'S 'CAPITULATION' OVER 'NIMITZ' CARRIER

ID241025 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Oct 79 Morning Edition p 4 ID

[Correspondent M. Sturua report: "Yielding to the 'Hawks'"]

[Text] Washington--Everyone knows that one swallow does not make a spring. Nontheless, its apperance is an unfailing sign of spring. One "hawk" also does not make an arms race, but where it has spread its wings militarist frosts may inexorably be expected.

We have started talking about signs in the following connection. Some time ago James Woolsey, U.S. under secretary of the navy, announced that his department had decided to extend "by a further 2 years" the term of active service of Admiral Rickover. Admiral Rickover is 79 years old and, under the iron rules of the U.S. Armed Forces, he should have retired almost 2 decades ago. But the decision surprised no one, for the extension of the active career of the equally iron or, to be more precise, nuclear admiral "by a further 2 years" has become a standard formula and customary business.

After all, the admiral is undoubtedly the "most" hawkish of all U.S. Naval hawks. It is perhaps simply a physical impossibility to be "more so" than Rickover. It is not for nothing that Washington wits call even Paul Nitze a "land-based Rickover." And that certainly means something in the "hawks'" "table of ranks." The credo of Rickover's life is very simple: as many large, nuclear-powered ships as possible. It is not for nothing that the "nuclear admiral" has another nickname: "the most expensive old man." Every extension of his career for another 2 years costs U.S. taxpayers billions of dollars. But it is not just a case of the rise in the cost of living. The playing with toy ships which enthralls Rickover, the creator of the first U.S. nuclear-powered submarine--the "Nautilus"--is both expensive and dangerous.

And now let us return to the signs. As soon as it became known that Admiral Rickover's unprecedented 57-year career was being extended to 1982, the political weathermen immediately predicted that the White House's agreement to the building of one more nuclear-powered "Nimitz" aircraft carrier could be expected. And that is what happened. Literally the day after the report by Undersecretary of the Navy Woolsey it became known that the U.S. President had "stopped opposing" the creation of the second "Nimitz" and decided not to veto, as he has been doing, the relevant congressional bill.

For the reader's information, "Nimitz" class aircraft carriers are the most enermous naval monsters. For instance, the dimensions of the first "Nimitz" were as follows: Displacement--93,400 tons, maximum length--332.8 meters; beam--76.8 meters. Two nuclear reactors are installed on the "Nimitz." It has 38 missile launchers. Finally, the "Nimitz" can carry 95 aircraft. The U.S. Navy has two operating aircraft carriers of this class--the "Nimitz" and the "Dwight D. Eisenhower--and one under construction.

The White House vetoed a new "Nimitz" not because the length and beam of the aircraft carrier and the reactors and missiles did not suit it. The reason lay somwhere else. The "Nimitz" is a very, very expensive toy. Even in fiscal 1976 it cost $1.9 billion. The present price is $2.5 billion. There was once an idea to replace the monster "Nimitz" with small conventional and non-nuclear-powered aircraft carriers. But the Senate Armed Services Committee, which is made up of old hands, canceled this project. Instead of the President's "babies," the senators suggested as a compromise another monster--the aircraft carrier "John F. Kennedy."

It must be said that this "compromise" monster is not cheap either. It costs $1.8 billion (it has a displacement of 80,000 tons, a maximum length of 319.3 meters and a beam of 76.8 meters.) The "John F. Kennedy" also has 38 Sea Sparrow missile launchers and can carry 85 aircraft. But unlike the "Nimitz" it uses not nuclear but conventional fuel. The price of the "John F. Kennedy" has increased sharply. The first aircraft carrier of this class cost "only" $277 million.

And the administration, which is tormented by visions of an unbalanced budget, seized on the "John F. Kennedy." But here it emerged that the congressmen have a bigger appetite than the senators. Last month the House voted against the administration's bill eliminating the "Nimitz" from the Pentagon's budget for fiscal 1980. It was expected that the President would follow the example of previous years and use his veto to prevent one more "Nimitz" from leaving the berths of the Newport News shipbuilding firm, but this did not happen this time. The White House stated that the administration would not oppose the building of the "Nimitz." This statement was made, as it happens, the day after the announcement that Admiral Rickover' active career had been extended "for another 2 years."

The White House accompanied its consent to the building of the Nimitz with a "condition" --it asked Congress for a "truce" on the question of economic sanctions against "Zimbabwe-Rhodesia" or, to be more precise, against former racist Rhodesia. The point is that the Senate's version of the budget bill contains a demand for the lifting of the embargo on imports of strategic materials from "Zimbabwe-Rhodesia" (it is worth recalling that this stance by Congress and particularly the stance of Senator Jesse Helms, plays a far from unimportant role in the Muzorewa-Smith clique's resistance to a true settlement of Zimbabwe's destiny). The conference committee in both the House and the Senate "came halfway to meet" the President. Instead of a direct demand to lift the sanction, a "compromise" formula was introduced into the bill proclaiming that, in the opinion of Congress, the United States should be able to import "critical strategic materials without artificial obstacles." You cannot call this even casuistry, rather it is mockery --of sanity and the taxpayers, of the United Nations, which adopted the resolution on sanctions, and, finally, of "Zimbabwe-Rhodesia's" long-suffering indigenous population.

And so the capitulation proved to be essentially unconditional. An administration spokesman stated that "we will have to pay the additional charge for the 'Nimitz'. Admiral Rickover and his allies in Congress believe that the 'Nimitz' is worth the difference."

Commenting on the extension of Rickover's term of active service and the White House's decision not to resort to a veto, the capital's press links them with the "general trends" to increase expenditure on the arms race now prevailing on the Capitol. It is impossible not to agree with this. To see this for yourself it is enough to look at the Pentagon's new budget, which shows an increase of 3 percent compared with the previous one, and to point to the decision of the Senate, which is urging that it be increased by a further 5 percent in 1981-1982.

In an attempt to justify this dangerous new spiral in the arms race, including at sea, the "hawks" are resorting to the well-known but, for all that, unconvincing myth of "the Soviet military threat"--this is something like the improbable monster in Scotland's Loch Ness about which much is said but which no one has ever seen. But the "Nimitz" monster is a reality threatening the Americans' pockets and their lives.

VANCE TO USE ARM-TWISTING TACTICS AT OAS PARLEY

LD231505 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Oct 79 p 3 LD

[TASS correspondent report: "Flagrant Blackmail"]

[Text] Washington, 20 October--U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance has set off for La Paz to take part in the ninth session of the OAS General Assembly, which opens in the Bolivian capital Monday.

Judging from statements by American officials, he has to resolve difficult tasks which go far beyond the assembly's agenda. In connection with the line adopted by the United States on building up the U.S. military presence in Central and South America, the Washington spokesman has been set a concrete goal--that of enlisting support among OAS members for that adventurist policy that is justified by groundless references to the "threat of Soviet-Cuban penetration."

Since, according to the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, many countries on the continent do not share the White House's "concern," well-informed observers are unanimously predicting that the United States will resort immediately to its favorite tactics of "arm-twisting." It is no accident that on the eve of the La Paz meeting the Pentagon organized an impressive armed provocation in the Caribbean, landing a Marine landing force many thousands strong at the Guantanamo Base and holding U.S. Navy and Air Force maneuvers off Cuba's shores. This show of U.S. military might was assessed everywhere as a desire to intimidate the Latin American peoples and to make sovereign states submit to flagrant blackmail.

Washington makes no secret of the fact that the United States would like to foist on the OAS the adoption of its own strategic designs, which are aimed at combatting the continent's national liberation movements and progressive governments. The press recalls in this connection the idea of creating so-called "pan-American peace forces." It is proposed that these forces, whose backbone will comprise U.S. troops, will be a crack force for defending U.S. "interests" and maintaining the status quo in countries with reactionary regimes. U.S. envoys in Latin America, according to a New York TIMES report, have already carried out the appropriate "preparatory work."

At the same time American strategists have put forward the idea of creating a military alliance in Latin America, whose naval forces would be instructed to patrol the continent's coastal waters for "defense against outside interference." The participants in the deal will be supplied with sophisticated U.S. military hardware.

All these plans are spearheaded against--apart from Cuba, which arouses Washington's impotent fury--those countries which have embarked on a path of national independence. UPI names among them Jamaica, Grenada, Nicaragua and Guyana.

It is these questions, judging from press reports, which will be at the center of the secretary of state's attention. As for such urgent Latin American problems as the economy, trade and the dominance of American monopolies, these are clearly assigned a secondary place in the U.S. delegation's program. Washington has also given up hypocritically stressing its "concern" at the human rights situation in a number of Latin American countries, relations with which the United States considers to be of paramount significance for "strategic considerations."

IRAN'S WARNING TO U.S. ON ADMITTING FORMER SHAH RECALLED

LD241512 Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Washington, October 24, TASS--A spokesman of the U.S. State Department has confirmed that the former shah of Iran is now staying in the United States. He refused to specify how long the shah would stay in the USA. ASSOCIATED PRESS reports in this connection that the State Department took the decision on the isue on entry visa to the former shah after consultations with the White House.

As is known, the Foreign Ministry of Iran officially warned the United States in its time that the passports of the shah and members of his family were legally invalid and that therefore the issue of any visas to them would be regarded as an unfriendly act toward Iran and would adversely affect its relations with the USA.

Although representatives of the Washington administration make all kinds of statements to the effect that during his stay in the USA the shah will not engage in any political activity, the issue of a visa to the shah was qualified in Iranian circles as direct connivance at the elements that group around the shah and as actual assistance to subversive activities against the Republic of Iran.

OPENING OF NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY SESSION IN CANADA NOTED

LD231242 Moscow TASS in English 1217 GMT 23 Oct 79 LD

[Text] New York, October 23, TASS--The annual session of the North Atlantic Assembly has opened in the Canadian capital with 200 parliamentarians from 15 NATO member countries attending.

On the session's agenda are military, political and economic matters confronting the partners in this aggressive bloc. The most important of them is "modernisation of arms" of the NATO countries. In this connection observers say that the United States intends to use the session as a new stage in its campaign of putting pressure on West European countries to secure their consent to the deployment of about 600 new American medium-range missiles in their territory. As is known, these plans of Washington have caused serious concern among public circles and many political leaders in Western Europe.

The week-long session is to be addressed by General B. Rogers, new supreme commander of the joint NATO forces in Europe, J. Luns, general secretary of NATO and other leaders of the bloc. The session is to discuss a report on political developments in NATO.

IZVESTIYA COMMENTS ON BROWN'S TALKS WITH PAK CHONG-HUI

LD241449 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Oct 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Yu. Bandura article under the rubric "On International topics": "Strategy of Tension"]

[Text] The latest round of military negotiations with the participation of U.S. Defense Secretary Brown has taken place in Seoul. Their content leaves no doubts as to the sides' desire to step up the stoking of tension in the Far East.

The U.S. Defense Secretary confirmed the Carter administration's abandonment of intentions to withdraw U.S. Armed Forces from the Korean Peninsula and stated that from next year the U.S. Air Forces in South Korea will start to be built up. He also announced U.S. intentions to begin the production in South Korea of sophisticated types of warplanes, in particular the F-5E. Brown's allegation that the United States' refusal to withdraw its troops and other measures to strengthen the Pak clique's military preparations "will force North Korea to initiate dialog" with Seoul can only be assessed as encouragement of the Seoul dictator's adventurism.

Nor can we disregard the fact that, according to Japan's JIJI PRESS news agency, the talks discussed the question of "military opposition to the Soviet Union." The appearance of this "point" on the agenda of the U.S.-South Korean conferences confirms the Pentagon's desire to lead the South Korean war machine beyond the confines of the Korean Peninsula and integrate it fully into U.S. global strategy in the Asian-Pacific region.

The desire to execute these designs also explains the fact that Washington "fails to notice" the antipopular, antidemocratic nature of Pak Chong-hui's regime. Neither the merciless suppression of civil liberties in South Korea nor the cruel repressions against democratic movements evokes any reaction in Washington except for routine appeals to "be more lenient." But Pak Chong-hui's clique knows perfectly the value of the remarks issuing occasionally from the White House. The Seoul dictator is confident that on the U.S. political pricelists the South Korean military, which is obedient to the Pentagon's orders, is rated considerably more highly than the people's flouted rights and freedoms.

It was this confidence that enabled Pak, unembarrassed by the presence of the Washington guest, to undertake new repressions against those who do not want to live under the heel of the military-fascist dictatorship any longer. It is indicative that the main role in suppressing the present mass demonstrations against Pak's clique is allocated to the army--the same army whose strengthening was discussed at Brown's talks in Seoul. This fact exposes more eloquently than any commentaries the goals for which it was necessary to expatiate so energetically about the mythical "aggression from the north" at the Seoul meeting.

Although the participants in the talks did not say a word about the fact that the further militarization of the regime is aimed against the South Korean population and at using Seoul in the Pentagon's long-term strategy--this was precisely what was essentially discussed at the military talks.

From Seoul the U.S. defense secretary set off for the Japanese capital--a familiar itinerary: Washington-Seoul-Tokyo. Highranking U.S. and Japanese officers have long been frequent travelers along this route. Brown's trip is nothing but the latest step in tightening the dangerous knot of imperialist Pacific strategy--putting together a military grouping comprising the United States, Japan and South Korea and designed to play the role of gendarme in the Far Eastern and Pacific region.

MPR FOREIGN MINISTER STOPS OVER IN MOSCOW 17-18 OCTOBER

LD241113 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Oct 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] M. Dugersuren, homeward-bound foreign minister of the Mongolian People's Republic, stopped over in Moscow 17-18 October.

KUZNETSOV RECEIVES CREDENTIALS OF MONGOLIAN AMBASSADOR

LD250710 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 25 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Bat-Ochiryn Gotob, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Mongolian Peoples Republic, presented his credentials in the Kremlin to Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. On presenting his credentials Comrade Gotob expressed thanks and sincere gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet Government, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally and to the whole fraternal Soviet people for the selfless international aid and support for socialist construction in Mongolia.

Comrade Kuznetsov requested the ambassador to convey to Comrade Tsedenbal and to other Mongolian leaders and to the whole fraternal Mongolian people friendly greetings from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and also sincere wishes for success in implementing the decisions of the 17th Congress of the Mongolian Peoples Revolutionary Party.

CPSU DELEGATION VISITS MONGOLIA, EXCHANGES EXPERIENCE

LD241153 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Oct 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Experience Exchanged"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty ties between the CPSU and the MPRP a CPSU party workers delegation headed by V.I. Drugov, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Administrative Organs department, was in the Mongolian People's Republic 9-14 October to exchange party work experience.

The delegation was received by D. Molomjamts and S. Jalana-Aajab, members of the Politburo and secretaries of the MPRP Central Committee.

SOVIET-JAPANESE BUSINESS TIES VIEWED POSITIVELY

LD231025 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 17 Oct 79 p 3 LD

[Candidate of Economic Sciences Yu. Maksimov article: under the rubric "Business Links": "Mutually Advantageous Partnership"]

[Text] We met with Tadashi Ito, chief managing director for the export and import of machine equipment of one of the largest Japanese commercial and industrial cooperations, Sumitomo, at this firm's Moscow office. He took part in a 4-day conference of leaders of Soviet foreign economic organizations and Japanese business circles. The Japanese businessman was satisfied with the results of the latest Soviet-Japanese dialog which promises considerable advantages. Above all he drew attention to the stability and large scale of business relations between the Soviet Union and Japan. In this regard substantial experience has already been amassed. Suffice it merely to cite the several major general agreements being implemented which encompass a very wide range of questions of our cooperation. In particular, two agreements concern the joint exploitation of timber resources in the Far East. They insure guaranteed deliveries of Soviet timber to Japan and the export of Japanese goods to our country.

In this connection we would like to note one characteristic feature of Soviet-Japanese business links. That is the mutual confidence of the partners in each other and in the strict fulfilment of the obligations they have assumed.

There are also general agreements between our countries on cooperation in joint exploitation of energy resources. For instance, the Japanese side is showing interest in providing its metallurgical industry with coking coal. The Soviet Union, as it opens up its eastern regions, is able to offer Japan this fuel. Thus the general agreement on the joint exploitation of the South Yakutsk coal basin was born. Japan supplies our country with equipment and provides credit, which will be repaid in deliveries of coking coal. This year Japanese companies have already received the first consignments of the valuable fuel.

Also being successfully implemented is the general agreement on Soviet-Japanese co-operation in oil and gas prospecting on the Sakhalin shelf. In the words of (Yesidzuki Toro), managing director of the Japanese GDC firm, "By pooling our efforts in geological exploration projects on the coastal shelf of the Soviet island of Sakhalin, we have already found the way toward a further broadening of cooperation."

During a recent meeting between A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Japanese industrialists, taking part in the economic meeting in Moscow, it was noted that all Soviet-Japanese agreements now in operation are being implemented within the agreed time limits. In this way a good foundation has been laid for further developing business contacts. It was no mere chance therefore that new large-scale projects were discussed at the Moscow conference. This, according to S. Nagano, chairman of the Japanese-Soviet Committee for Economic Cooperation, "bears eloquent witness to the important significance of the exchange of opinions which has taken place in Moscow."

It was revealed, for example, that there was mutual interest in the development on a compensatory basis of cooperation in the building of the Amur pulp and paper combine and the modernization of pulp and paper enterprises on Sakhalin. An accord was reached on cooperation in the expansion of specialized transhipping complexes at the port of Vostochnyy. Both sides spoke in favor of cooperation in exploiting copper and asbestos deposits. In a word, the Moscow conference showed convincingly that our two countries have no shortage of mutually advantageous partnership projects.

At the same time, a characteristic feature of Soviet-Japanese business cooperation is that it is not directed against the interests of any third country. On the contrary this cooperation in a number of cases reveals broad opportunities for the participation of other countries in implementing joint Soviet-Japanese projects. The Soviet-Japanese-American general agreement on prospecting the Yakutsk natural gas deposit, may serve as an example of this.

Not just the Soviet Union is interested in such cooperation of course. As was noted at the Moscow conference, if Japanese business circles are interested in the vast Soviet market, they must orient themselves toward stable, long-term links, reinforced at business and intergovernmental levels.

USSR-SRV COOPERATION SUBCOMMISSION ENDS MOSCOW SESSION

LD241029 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Oct 79 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Subcommission Session"]

[Text] The sixth session of the standing subcommission for scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and the SRV was held in Moscow 15 through 19 October.

The session noted that the foundation for broad contacts between Soviet and Vietnamese scientists and specialists was laid by the intergovernmental agreement on scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries signed 20 years ago. Guided by the principles of proletarian internationalism, fraternity and mutual aid, the Soviet Union throughout this period has granted the Vietnamese people selfless aid in creating virtually all the basic sectors of the SRV economy, including electric power engineering, agriculture, the coal and chemical industries and the development of science and technology. The USSR has rendered and continues to render the SRV assistance in constructing and modernizing 268 national economic projects, 187 of which have been commissioned. With the USSR's aid, over 60,000 Vietnamese specialists and skilled workers have been trained.

The session approved the main directions of Soviet-Vietnamese scientific and technical cooperation through 1990, and also the themes of this cooperation for 1981 through 1985, which include developing in many sectors of the national economy over 90 scientific and technical topics aimed at resolving important problems of the economy.

CPSU GREETS NEW ZEALAND SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY

LD240825 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[Text] To the fifth national conference of the New Zealand Socialist Unity Party

Dear Comrades:

The CPSU Central Committee sends fraternal greetings to delegates at the fifth national conference of the New Zealand Socialst Unity Party and to all members and supporters of the party.

The Socialist Unity Party--the party of New Zealand's working class and working people--consistently defends their vital rights and demands and fights for its country's national interests and socialism. Your party firmly advocates peace, opposes the intrigues of imperialism and advocates friendship between the New Zealand and Soviet peoples and Marxist-Leninist cohesion in the international communist movement.

The CPSU Central Committee wishes the New Zealand Socialist Unity Party further growth in its prestige for the good of the working people and in the name of a better future for its homeland.

Long live friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and New Zealand!

Long live peace and socialism!

[signed] CPSU Central Committee

YUGOSLAV CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM MEETS

LD241013 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Oct 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "LCY Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Belgrade, 19 October--An LCY Central Committee plenum has been held here. The plenum discussed questions of enhancing the LCY's political ideological role in society. B. Mikulic, chairman of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, delivered a report on this question.

The plenum also examined and approved the report on the activity of the LCY Central Committee Presidium for the period since the 11th LCY Congress. The report states that the main task in the period under review was the implementation of the decisions of the 11th LCY Congress aimed at enhancing the LCY's role in the struggle to strengthen the country's material base and the communists' political ideological standard.

New Presidency President

LD241258 Moscow TASS in English 1222 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Belgrade, October 24, TASS--As the TANJUG news agency reports, a meeting of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) took place at Karadzordzev under the chairmanship of Josip Broz Tito, LCY chairman. On a proposal of Josip Broz Tito, S. Doronski was elected the chairman of the Presidium of the LCY Central Committee for a term of one year.

ROMANIAN-SOVIET PANEL DISCUSSES TRANSPORTATION COOPERATION

LD230901 Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 6 Oct 79 p 3 LD

[ATEM report: "Meeting in Kishinev"]

[Text] A meeting of the Soviet-Romanian working group on cooperation in the sphere of railroad transportation held in Kishinev under the auspices of the Soviet-Romanian intergovernmental commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation 1 through 5 October culminated in the signing of a protocol between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Romania.

Both sides, respectively headed by I.A. Yemets, USSR deputy minister of railways, and Ion Nicolescu, Romanian first deputy minister of transportation and telecommunications, discussed questions relating to the improvement of passenger and freight transportation between the two countries and outlined specific measures for further improvement of such transportation.

The meeting of the working group took place in a businesslike atmosphere and with full mutual understanding.

CZECHOSLOVAK PRESS CITED ON PRAGUE SENTENCES

LD241907 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] The Czechoslovak papers today published the sentences of the Prague city court in the case of six defendants. The court found all the defendants guilty of subversive activity against the CSSR and sentenced them to various terms of imprisonment: Uhl was sentenced to 5 years, Benda to 4 years, Dienstbier to 3 years, Havel to 4 and 1/2 years, Bednarova to 3 years and Nemcova was sentenced conditionally to 2 years' deprivation of liverty.

PATOLICHEV, CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER CONFER

LD241105 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Oct 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[TASS report under general headline "Official Reports"]

[Text] Talks took place 18 October between N.S. Patolichev, USSR minister of foreign trade, and A. Barcak, CSSR minister of foreign trade. Questions connected with the further development of trade and economic relations between the two countries were discussed.

CSSR, USSR SIGN PROTOCOL ON TELEVISION COOPERATION

LD231350 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 23 Oct 79 LD

[Text] The signing of a working protocol on cooperation in the television sector in 1980-1981 between the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and Czechoslovak television took place in Moscow today.

The document envisages a further development of cooperation and exchange of television material covering the successes of the two countries in building communism and socialism and the friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the USSR and the CSSR.

The protocol was signed by Lapin, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and Zelenka, general director of Czechoslovak television.

KAPITONOV RECEIVES GDR INSPECTORATE DELEGATION

LD241323 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Oct 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Talk at CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] A delegation from the GDR committee of the workers' and peasants' inspectorate headed by A. Stief, member of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the Committee of the Workers' and Peasants' Inspectorate, has been in the Soviet Union.

The delegation familiarized itself with the experience of the work of People's Control organs in our country. It had talks at the USSR Committee of People's Control, the Moldavian SSR Committee of People's Control and the Moskovskaya Oblast Committee of People's Control and met with the People's Control workers at a number of industrial and agricultural enterprises. A meeting with the delegation took place at the Moldavian CP Central Committee.

The delegation from the GDR Committee of the Workers' and Peasants' Inspectorate was received by I.V. Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. A.M. Shkolnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Committee of the People's Control, took part in the warm, friendly talk which took place.

BRIEFS

GDR TOURISM SEMINAR--A seminar, held in Kiev on 22 October under the auspices of the office of the GDR travel bureau in the USSR, the Foreign Tourism Administration under the Ukrainian Council of Ministers and the Ukrainian Trade Unions Council, was dedicated to the problems of developing and expanding tourism to the GDR. Participating in the seminar were representatives of Ukrainian trade unions and aktivs of the Ukrainian branch of the Soviet Society for Friendship with the GDR. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 22 Oct 79 AU]

FRG GOVERNMENT POSITION ON EUROMISSILES SCORED

DW241433 Moscow in German to Germany 1742 GMT 23 Oct 79 DW

[Valentin Zakharov commentary: "Acrobatics of Disarmament Opponents"]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, when several days ago a high-ranking U.S. delegation led by deputy assistant to the U.S. President for National Security Council, Aaron, came to Bonn, the central subject of the talks between Aaron and Foreign Minister Genscher was the preparation of the NATO fall conference and in particular NATO's missile plan. The American side stressed once again that the new medium-range missiles will be produced only if their deployment in the FRG is guaranteed.

Assessing the results of his negotiations with Aaron, Genscher writes in a statement that he sees no reason for a postponement of a decision on the medium-range missiles to be made by NATO in December. The fact that Bonn considers the plan on the production and stationing of new American weapons systems a matter of great importance also becomes clear from a recent statement by the military expert of the SPD Bundestag faction, Pawelczyk, who said in Munich that the Federal Government has intensified efforts to persuade the West European countries to make a decision on the stationing of new U.S. missiles prior to the NATO December meeting. In addition, the foreign policy expert of the SPD in the Bundestag, Peter Corterier, announced on behalf of the SPD that everything would be done at the North Atlantic Assembly meeting in Ottawa this week to secure the deployment of the new medium-range nuclear weapons in Western Europe.

In their attempt to guarantee the production and stationing of new medium-range missiles in the FRG and several other NATO countries, the Bonn politicians are bringing intensified pressure on the other West European countries by propagating the legend of the disturbed balance of forces in Europe, although Bonn knows that a balance does exist presently between the two military blocs. This fact was also recognized in the communique signed by Brezhnev and Carter at the conclusion of the Vienna SALT II negotiations.

To secure the NATO decisions they want on the production and stationing of new medium-range weapons the Bonn politicans are now trying to establish a link between the SALT II pact and the NATO decisions. But this attempt by the Bonn politicians now turns out to be the acrobatics of the opponents of disarmament. The SALT II pact is an agreement which not only limits but also reduces strategic offensive weapons. In addition, this agreement will build a bridge to a SALT III treaty. So it is clear that without SALT II; no SALT III agreement can be concluded. But no less clear is the fact that the implementation of the NATO missile plan would only further obstruct considerably the negotiations on SALT III.

Thus the efforts undertaken by Bonn to secure the NATO decisions on the production and stationing of new strategic medium-range weapons with reference to SALT II produce an effect in the wrong direction, because these efforts obviously are serving to further upgrade NATO's medium-range arms potential. This is a policy of stepping up armament, aimed at gaining illusory better starting positions in diplomatic negotiations. This also is a policy which in the past decades time and again led to new rounds of the arms race and not to a reduction of arms.

If Mr Moellemann and other politicans in Bonn now are dreaming of NATO's capability of action, if the NATO missile plan is adopted and implemented, then it is easy to imagine which capability of action they are dreaming about.

HUA'S CALL FOR GERMAN REUNIFICATION SCORED

OW240940 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 23 Oct 79 OW

[Mitin commentary: "He is Farther Right Than the West German Rightists"]

[Text] Hua Guofeng said at a luncheon in Bonn, the capital of West Germany: The existence of two German countries is an abnormal situation and Germany must be unified. The German Democratic Republic's ADN pointed out that the Chinese premier's statement was over playing with fire and an attempt to sabotage detente in Europe. Has Hua Guofeng any grounds for making such a statement? We now ask Comrade Mitin to answer this question.

Hua Guofeng and the persons accompanying him should know very well what is the stand of the West German leaders toward the notorious question of the unification of Germany. Both West Germany and the German Democratic Republic have signed the final documents at the Helsinki conference, and we all know that the documents clearly define the principles of maintaining the current political status in Europe and of noninterference in the present territories by various countries in Europe.

To whom did the Chinese premier put forward this slogan of the unification of Germany? In today's West Germany, even the most reactionary forces dare not openly use this slogan. For a period in the past, reactionaries such as Strauss energetically peddled this slogan on the unification of Germany. At that time they attempted to destroy the German Democratic Republic--a socialist country on German soil. But today even such ultrarightists have refrained from mentioning this question. What is the reason then? Of course it is not because they do not hate socialism as much as before. It is because of the fact that following the signing of the final documents by various European countries at the Helsinki conference, the political atmosphere in Europe has greatly changed. If anyone ignores this change and continues to talk about the unification of Germany, he will imperil his own destiny. West European countries, including West Germany, are no longer disregarding the existence of the German Democratic Republic. If anyone disregards this fact today, he is totally disregarding the actual situation.

The German Democratic Republic is now a prosperous socialist country. It has been making constant achievements in economic, cultural, scientific and other fields since its founding 30 years ago. The Berman Democratic Republic has constantly expanded its contacts with other countries and is playing an ever increasing role in promoting detente in Europe. Cooperation based on mutual benefit between the two German countries is constantly developing. Under such circumstances, what is the meaning of Hua Guofeng's advocating the unification of Germany? Is he attempting to revive certain forces in Germany and help them take the road of opposing the German Democratic Republic? This is apparently an impossible thing. As I said earlier in today's West Germany even the ultrarightists dare not openly hoist the flag of the unification of Germany. Hua Guofeng's act of sowing dissension definitely will not help promote mutual understanding between Beijing and Bonn. Hua Guofeng's act can only yield one result: the further ruining of China's own foreign policy in the face of the people of West Europe and of the whole world. Hua Guofeng's advocacy of the unification of Germany has further proved the reactionary nature of Beijing's policy toward Europe.

BASQUE, CATALAN REFERENDUMS IMPORTANT TO SPAIN'S FUTURE

LD241830 Moscow in Spanish to Spain 2000 GMT 23 Oct 79 LD

[Yuriy Konstantinov commentary]

[Excerpts] Referendums are to be held on 24 [as heard] October in Catalonia and the Basque Country on the draft laws granting autonomy to these two national regions of Spain.

Solving the national problem of enormous importance to the democratization process in Spain. It is no coincidence that the Spanish Constitution provides for granting autonomy to the historic regions, including Catalonia and Euskadi. National self-management within the framework of the Spanish State only became possible after the liquidation of the dictatorship, when the country, in renouncing the legacy of the past, embarked upon the path of democratic transformations.

The statutes of autonomy do not resolve all the national problems, for which, naturally, time is needed. But they do correspond to the spirit and letter of the country's constitution, and confirm the intentions of the Adolfo Suarez cabinet to carry out the program of granting autonomy to the historic regions within the framework of a united Spain.

It is well known that the statutes of Catalonia and Guernica have been endorsed by the most important political parties, trade unions and social organizations; they have urged everyone who holds the ideals of democracy and progress dear to insure a calm atmosphere on the day of the referendum and to approve the statutes of autonomy.

Having made such an appeal to the Basques, Carlos Garaicoechea, the president of the Basque General Council and president of the Basque Nationalist Party, placed particular emphasis on the fact that with the passing of the statute in the Basque country the social base for terrorism would disappear. The passing of the law, said Jesus Maria de Leizaola, president of the Basque government in exile, would lead to peace in the Basque country and would contribute to the consolidation of democracy. Speaking at a meeting in Bilbao, Roberto Lertxundi, secretary general of the Communist Party of Euskadi, said that the referendum was an inalienable part of the process of democratization in the country and on its results would to a great extent depend the character of the subsequent democratic development of Spain.

These are the replies to the rightwing forces who, while aggravating the situation in the Basque country and provoking the extremists to further acts of terrorism, are shouting warnings about the break-up of Spain after the approval of the statutes of autonomy.

After the acute political battles which lasted many days, the electors of Catalonia and the Basque country now have 24 hours for reflection. On 25 October they will go to the polls to express their views in the referendum.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON PDRY'S ISMA'IL'S VISIT TO USSR

Welcoming Ceremony

LD241346 Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 24, TASS--'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, arrived in Moscow today for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the USSR. At Vnukovo Airport, decorated with the flags of the PDRY and the USSR, he was met at the plane's gangway by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Leonid Brezhnev, members of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee--Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, Minister of Defence of the USSR Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov, Alternate Member of the Political Bureau, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Boris Ponomarev.

The guest was also met by Aleksey Vatchenko, vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet; Ziya Nuriyev, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR; Nikolay Pegov, head of a department of the CPSU CC; Boris Bugayev and Nikolay Shchelokov, ministers of the USSR: Semen Skachkov, Sergey Lapin, chairman of the USSR state committees; Georgiy Kornenko and Nikolay Ogarkov, deputy ministers of the USSR; Semen Tsvigun, first vice chairman of the USSR Committee of State Security; Vladimir Promyslov, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Moscow city Soviet; Karen Brutens, deputy head of a department of the CPSU CC; Sergey Losev, TASS director general; Yevgeniy Samoteykin, aide to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Oleg Grinevskiy, Dmitriy Nikiforov, heads of departments of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and by other officials.

Among the welcoming party were 'Abd al-Aziz Abdul ad-Dali, the ambassador of the PDRY to the USSR, the heads of diplomatic missions of a number of countries accredited in the USSR, South Yemeni students who study at the institutes of the Soviet capital, and representatives of Moscow people. A guard of honor consisting of representatives of three armed services of the USSR--land forces, the air force, and the navy--was lined up on the airfield.

Leonid Brezhnev and 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il reviewed the line-up of Soviet armymen. The anthems of the two countries were played. The welcoming ceremony ended with a march-past of the guard of honor. From the airport Leonid Brezhnev and 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il and other Soviet and South Yemeni statesmen drove to the city, accompanied by an honorary escort of motorcyclists. The streets and squares through which the motorcade drove were decorated with the national flags of the PDRY and the USSR and welcoming streamers in Arabic and Russian.

Brezhnev, Isma'il Hold Talks

LD241904 Moscow TASS in English 1852 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 24, TASS--Talks have opened in the Kremlin today between General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and General Secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party CC, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il.

Views were exchanged in a warm comradely atmosphere on a further development of Soviet-South Yemeni relations in the political, economic, scientific, cultural and other fields. A successful development of these relations based on common tasks of struggle against imperialism and its henchmen, for peace and social progress was noted with satisfaction.

Leonid Brezhnev welcomed the achievements of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in strengthening the gains of the revolution, the political and socio-economic transformations accomplished under the leadership of the Yemeni Socialist Party in the interests of the South Yemeni people.

In discussing international issues, special attention was devoted to the situation in the Middle East.

The participants in the talks noted that the conclusion of the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty has put up serious obstacles on the way towards the attainment of a just and comprehensive settlement in that area. The policy of separate deals, Leonid Brezhnev said, bears no promise. It is only by eliminating the separate treaty, that it will be possible to turn things towards a just and comprehensive Middle East settlement with the participation of all sides concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Leonid Brezhnev and 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il have condemned the increasing attempts of the imperialist forces to create seats of tension in the areas of the Red Sea and Persian Gulf, to knock together new military blocs for interfering in the home affairs of the countries of that region, and exploiting their national wealth. Leonid Brezhnev firmly declared that the Soviet Union fully sides with the Arab peoples giving a rebuff to the forces of imperialism and reaction.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1830 GMT on 24 October adds that:

"Talks began in the Kremlin today between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet; Gromyko, Politburo member and USSR minister of foreign affairs; Ustinov, Politburo member, USSR minister of defense and marshal of the Soviet Union; Kuznetsov, Politburo candidate member and first deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet; and Ponomarev, Politburo candidate member and CPSU Central Committee secretary.

And 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council; Muhammad Salih Muti, Politburo member and Central Committee secretary; Anis Hasan Yahya, Politburo member and PDRY minister of fish resources; Salim Salih Muhammad, Politburo candidate member and minister of foreign affairs; and 'Ali Muhammad Nasir Antar, Politburo candidate member and PDRY minister of defense."]

Award to PDRY's Isma'il

LD241602 Moscow TASS in English 1552 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 24, TASS--General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Leonid Brezhnev presented the Friendship of the People's Order to general secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the PDRY, 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, in the Kremlin today.

Award Ceremony

ID242340 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, presented 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, general secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee and chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, the Order of Friendship Among Peoples in the Kremlin today.

Present during the presentation in the hall were Comrades Gromyko, Ustinov, Kuznetsov and Ponomarev, as well as Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Zamyatin, chief of a department of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

On the South Yemeni side were: Muhammad Salih Muti, member of the Yemeni Socialist Party Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee; Anis Hasan Yahya, minister of fish resources of the PDRY; Salim Salih Muhammad, candidate member of the Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs of the PDRY; 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar, minister of defense of the PDRY; and other statesmen accompanying Isma'il.

Presenting the award Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said:

Dear Comrade Isma'il! Allow me once more to congratulate you on the recent jubilee and on the award to you of the Soviet Order of Friendship Among Peoples. This lofty award reflects the feeling of deep respect which the Soviet people feel for you and the people of Democratic Yemen.

I am glad to present this order to you personally for services in the struggle for national liberation, peace and social progress and for a great contribution to the strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Democratic Yemen and the Soviet Union.

With all my heart, said Comrace Brezhnev, I wish you good health and happiness and new and great successes in your noble activity.

In reply Comrade Isma'il said:

Dear Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev! At this solemn moment for me, the awarding of the Order of Friendship Among Peoples, allow me to express to you, the CPSU, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and all the representatives of the Soviet people my profound gratitude for the lofty award. In receiving this order with a feeling of appreciation and deep satisfaction, I wish to stress that I see it as an award to the Yemeni Socialist Party and all our people as a recognition of their efforts in the struggle for peace and friendship between peoples and above all for friendship with the Soviet Union.

Friendship among peoples is one of the vitally important gains of the Great October Socialist Revolution which was carried out in the name of the ideals of freedom, socialism and friendship under the banner, raised aloft, of proletarian internationalism. Great October showed the people the path of the struggle for a new world, the word of fraternity and friendship. Enthused by these ideals by which the party of great Lenin has always been guided, we in Democratic Yemen shall continue to travel along the path of the consolidation of friendship among peoples and above all of our friendly relations with the Soviet Union.

I assure you, said Isma'il, that the award that has been presented will be for me a new incentive for further activity [deyatelnost] between our countries.

Allow me once more to thank you, dear Comrade Brezhnev, and to hope for a further consolidation of the relations between our countries on the basis of the indestructible principles of proletarian internationalism.

The statesmen of the Soviet Union and the PDRY present at the award ceremony warmly congatulated Isma'il on the lofty award.

Brezhnev Dinner Speech

LD242028 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Government gave a dinner on 24 October in the Great Kremlin Palace in honor of 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, general secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee and president of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium.

Together with Isma'il at the dinner were the South Yemeni statesmen accompanying him.

On the Soviet side present at the dinner were Comrades Brezhnev, Gromyko, Ustinov, Kuznetsov, Tikhonov and Ponomarev; deputy chairmen of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers; USSR ministers; chairman of USSR state committee; and other officials.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, gave a speech at the dinner. He said:

Dear Comrade 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il! Dear friends from South Yemen! Comrades!

I am heartily pleased to welcome you, Comrade Isma'il and all the leading figures who are here from the PDRY.

The people of Democratic Yemen has filled more than one glorious page in the history of the national-liberation movement. From the first guerilla detachments in the mountains to the victory of the anti-imperialist uprising, the attainment of independence and the proclamation of the course of building socialism--such is the road traversed by the South Yemeni people. And it traversed this road under the leadership of its revolutionary vanguard, united now in the Yemeni Socialist Party.

Being true to the Leninist principles of foreign policy, the Soviet Union attaches special importance to the development and strengthening of relations with those countries which, like we, uphold the ideals of freedom, independence and peace, and are implacable to any manifestations of hegemonism.

Particularly close to us are countries which are not only our allies in the struggle against imperialism, in the struggle for peace, but which also share our ideas and set themselves the aim of building a society free from exploitation of man by man. No friends of these countries are more reliable and true than the Soviet Union and other states of the socialist community.

We are also gratified, naturally, that the Soviet Union and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen keep to the same positions in questions of world politics, including those concerning the Middle East.

The situation in that area of the world, unfortunately, remains dangerous. There is one cause of this--the stubborn refusal of the Tel Aviv rulers and their patrons from outside to heed the voice of reason.

It is high time to understand that Israel can count on secure existence within the 1967 borders only if it withdraws from all Arab lands captured by it since then and stops obstructing the implementation of the national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including its right to set up its own independent state.

Time is now wating, and if anyone entertains hopes that time works for Israel, they are wrong.

Also wrong are those who think they will succeed by means of the brand new "quick reaction corps', this purely imperialist venture, to compel Arab countries surrender their inalienable right to manage their national wealth.

Wise statesmanship does not mean "quick reaction" with a machinegun or a rifle. The main thing is to react correctly with due account for the objective realities of the present-day world, to search for a peaceful solution of problems.

Relapses of the imperialist "gunboat diplomacy" in its present appearance can lead only to the origination of new dangerous seats of tension and aggravation of old ones, and worsen the international situation as a whole. Attempts to revive now the inglorious policy of colonialists are doomed to inevitable failure, given that the peoples keep their guard up and give a timely and resolute rebuff to them.

We note with satisfaction that the people and leadership of South Yemen, just as of the majority of Arab countries, are acting precisely in this manner.

In conclusion, dear friends, allow me to express the conviction that the present visit of the PDRY delegation and our talks mark a new, important stage in the development of relations of friendship and cooperation between our countries and peoples.

I propose a toast. To the health of Comrade 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il and the other South Yemeni leaders! To friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Democratic Yemen! To a just and stable peace in the Near East and throughout the world.

A speech was given in reply by 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il. He said in part:

Democratic Yemen, in the person of the Yemeni Socialist Party and its people, is building relations with the friendly Soviet Union on a principled basis, being guided by the strategy of the world revolutionary movement and the tasks of the struggle against imperialism, Zionism, racism, colonialism, neocolonialism and reaction, by the struggle for national liberation and national progress and for the further growth in the influence of socialism and for the strengthening of peace and stability in our world.

We are happy today to find ourselves in Moscow, the capital of the Soviet Union, the first socialist state in the world, and to have the possibility of continuing the exchange of experiences between our parties and countries and also of discussing various aspects of the further development of relations of friendship and cooperation between our friendly peoples.

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party and all the working people of Yemen, Isma'il expressed his hearty congratulations on the occasion of the 62d anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and wished the CPSU and the Soviet Union further successes in the cause of the construction of advanced socialism.

The speeches of Comrades Brezhnev and Isma'il were listened to with great attention and frequently interrupted by prolonged applause.

Isma'il's Kremlin Dinner Speech

LD250445 Moscow in Arabic to North Africa 2100 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Speech by 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il at the Kremlin banquet given in his honor by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee on 24 October--read by announcer]

[Text] 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council in the PDRY, in his reply speech at the banquet given in his honor in the Kremlin, expressed his thanks and gratitude for the warm welcome given to the members of the delegation he is leading. 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il said:

During the last few years we have held high-level meetings and have been able to build a strong bridge for friendship. In the course of the struggle against imperialism and its aggressive tools, this bridge has become stronger. Today, I am totally confident that this meeting, in which a deep spirit of friendship, comradeship and joint cooperation prevails, will strengthen the bridge of our friendship and make it solid in the face of the enemies of our peoples, principles and revolutionary value.

As far as we in Democratic Yemen are concerned, we are proud of and hold dear your friendship and cooperation. Your friendly country stood by our people during difficult and trying circumstances. It gave us support and disinterested and sincere assistance to safeguard our young revolutionary system. In accordance with our economic, technical and cultural cooperation agreement, many projects have been and are being carried out in the agricultural and industrial spheres and in the field of oil prospecting, as well as in the sphere of cadre training. Our interparty relations have deepened in a satisfactory manner.

My comrades and I are totally convinced that this visit will open a new page in our countries' relations by making them deeper and more comprehensive. We can say that the development of our relations with the socialist countries has made available suitable outside assistance for our people to proceed along the path of social progress. Our party is of the view that our country's membership in CEMA as an observer will open wide vistas for our joint cooperation in a manner that will help to accelerate our country's revolutionary process and in general, to link our countries' common interests more closely. Relations with the socialist countries have become an important factor in transforming the international economic system into one based on balanced agreements, justice and equality.

Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, we in Democratic Yemen have, since attaining our national independence, been making great efforts to overcome the difficulties of the revolution and the legacy of the colonialists.

We have established the governmental sector and the cooperative sector, and we have spread the democracy of education, medical services and improvements in the people's standard of living. We must say that we have brought about important revolutionary transformations in the political, economic and social fields. The most significant of these changes is the establishment of the Yemeni Socialist Party, which is guided by the theory of scientific socialism and the establishment of a political authority that expresses the interests of workers. The policy of our party aims not only at realizing revolutionary transformations inside Democratic Yemen, but also at improving the Arab and international circumstances by promoting stability, security and peace among peoples.

Referring to the situation in the Arabian Peninsula, the Horn of Africa and the Indian Ocean basin, 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il said that the firm policy of the PDRY rests on the principles of peaceful coexistence and respect for the national sovereignty of all states in the region regardless of their social system, and on the rejection of the security alliances and the military bases which are being planned by world imperialism. Our country strongly condemns the provocative military movements by U.S. imperialism and the aggressive intentions which the latter has against the sovereignty of the region's countries, especially its intention to occupy the oilfields.

With regard to the situation in the Middle East, Democratic Yemen proceeds from the fact that the establishment of peace here is impossible without the complete and unconditional withdrawal of the troops of the Israeli aggressor from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and without safeguards for the legitimate rights of the Arab peoples of Palestine, including their right to self-determination and to set up their own independent state under the leadership of the PLO.

Our country has always realized that the three parties who signed the Camp David accord on the Middle East fell into a trap of their own imagination and will not be able to free themselves unless they cancel their unjust accord which totally contradicts the interests and sovereignty of our Arab peoples, whose land is occupied.

Democratic Yemen is convinced that the defeat of the capitulatory separate collusion, an end to the Israeli occupation and prevention of new acts of aggression against southern Lebanon can be achieved only through the firm, militant solidarity of the Arab countries and close cooperation between the Arab countries, the Soviet Union, and the other countries of the socialist community and all peace-loving and progress-loving forces.

With regard to the situation in southern Africa, we totally support the peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa in their struggle against the dominant white minorities and for national liberation and full national sovereignty. Not only does Democratic Yemen stand by the subjugated peoples and their just struggle for national liberation and the chance to enjoy their right to freedom and sovereignty the same as all other peoples, but it also stands by the policy of international detente and the limiting of the production of strategic weapons. It stands by progressive mankind in its effort to save the world from a war of destruction. In this respect, we unreservedly support the Soviet Union's policy which aims at deepening international detente. We express our satisfaction with the signing of the SALT II agreement and sincerely hope that efforts by the Soviet Union will succeed in bringing about the signing of SALT III.

In a few days your friendly Soviet people, with all progressive mankind, will celebrate the 62d anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution--the anniversary of the establishment of the first socialist state in our world and the beginning of the era of moving toward socialism and the collapse of capitalism. Since that day, the Soviet Union has not only solved complicated and difficult tasks--such as building a socialist society, promoting brotherhood among all nationalities, confronting the imperialist wars of aggression and consolidating peace--but it has also become a center of international influence guiding mankind in the struggle for freedom, justice, equality and sociaism

In conclusion, 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il congratulated the leaders and peoples of the Soviet Union on the 62d anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and wished them more successes and prosperity.

Talks Continue in Kremlin

LD250910 Moscow TASS in English 0907 GMT 25 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 25, TASS--Soviet-South Yemeni talks were continued in the Kremlin today. Taking part in the talks are Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Conclusion of Talks

LD251222 Moscow TASS International Service in Russia 1114 GMT 25 Oct 79 LD

["End of Soviet-PDRY Talks"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 25 October, TASS--Talks ended today in the Kremlin between Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs; Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense; Vasiliy Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Boris Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemen Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council; Muhammad Salih Muti, member of the Politburo and secretary of the YSP Central Committee; Anis Hasan Yahya, member of the YSP Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs of the PDRY; and 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar, candidate member of the YSP Central Committee Politburo and minister of defense of the PDRY.

The exchange of opinions on questions of the further development of Soviet-PDRY relations and on topical international problems, including the situation in the Near East, the Persian Gulf, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean, was continued.

The two sides expressed satisfaction at the favorable development of and the prospects for further strengthening links between the CPSU and the YSP and relations between the Soviet Union and the PDRY in the interests of the peoples of both countries.

'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il expressed to the CPSU Central Committee Politburo his sincere gratitude for the opportunity to visit the Soviet Union, seeing in this invitation a manifestation of the feelings of deep friendship and cooperation which exist between the Soviet Union and the PDRY.

'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il gave the Soviet leaders detailed information on the socioeconomic changes that are being carried out in the country under the leadership of the YSP, and on the stand of the PDRY regarding topical international problems. On the path of its development, said 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, our republic is running into difficulties which are above all due to the hostile intrigues of imperialism and Arab reaction, who are trying to disturb the building of a socialist society in the PDRY.

One of the chief factors of the revolutionary development of the PDRY and its strengthening, 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il stressed, is the support given to Democratic Yemen by the Soviet Union. Our advance along the path of progressive socioeconomic changes, he said, has become possible thanks to the existence of the socialist community and its present, decisive part in the struggle for peace and international detente.

'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il expressed warm approval for the foreign policy initiatives of the CPSU and the Soviet Government, which were summed up in Leonid Brezhnev's speech on 6 October this year in Berlin and are aimed at a consolidation of the process of detente, limitation of arms, and disarmament. Realization of these proposals, 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il noted, will have a great and beneficial influence on the whole international situation.

Leonid Brezhnev highly praised the productive creative activities of the YSP in the interests of the South Yemeni people and of peace and security in the southern Arabian Peninsula and in the whole Near East. He stressed the importance of establishing peaceful relations between the states in this area on the basis of the principles of equal rights, mutual respect of interests and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

The participants in the talks expressed the firm conviction that in the situation which has come about in the Near East special significance is taken on by the strengthening of cohesion and unity of the actions of the Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organization and of all patriotic forces in the struggle against the intrigues of imperialism in defense of the vital national interests of the peoples of the Near East.

The talks passed in a cordial comradely atmosphere.

A joint communique was agreed on the results of the visit, and this will be published in the press.

Signing of Soviet-Yemeni Documents

LD251226 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1135 GMT 25 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 25 October, TASS--The signing of Soviet-South Yemen documents took place today in the Great Kremlin Palace.

A treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen was signed for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

For the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, by 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemen Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the PDRY.

Also signed was a plan of contacts between the CPSU and the Socialist Party of Yemen for the years 1980-83. The plan was signed by Candidate Member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, Secretary of CPSU Central Committee Boris Ponomarev and member of the Socialist Party of Yemen Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the YSP Central Committee M.S. Muti.

Also signed was a protocol between the USSR Government and the PDRY Government on economic and technical cooperation. It was signed on behalf of the Soviet Government by the Chairman of the State Committee for Economic Relations Semen Skachkov; on behalf of the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen by the Yemeni minister of installations, Haydar Abu Bakr al-Attas.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1100 GMT on 25 October carries an identical version of the above item which adds the following passage at the end: "Present at the signing of the documents on the Soviet side were Andropov, Grishin, Gromyko, Ustinov, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Solomentsev, Tikhonov, Kapitonov, Dolgikh, Zimyanin, and Gorbachev; deputy chairmen of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers; ministers of the USSR; chairmen of state committees of the USSR; and other officials. Present on the South Yemen side were Anis Hasan Yahya, member of the YSP Central Committee Politburo and minister of fish resources of the PDRY; Salim Salih Muhammad, candidate member of the YSP Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs; 'Ali Nasir Antar, candidate member of the YSP Central Committee Politburo and minister of defense; and other state officials accompanying 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il.]

Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation

LD251248 Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 25 Oct 79 LD

["A Treaty Signed"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, October 25, TASS--Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party, president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the PDRY, signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the PDRY in the Kremlin today. The treaty notes the two countries' determination "to strengthen the unbreakable friendship between the two countries and steadily develop political relations and all-round cooperation". The sides, the document says, "will continue to develop cooperation in the military field on the basis of the relevant agreements concluded between them in the interests of strengthening their defense capacity".

The treaty says that the USSR respects the PDRY's policy of nonalignment, which is an important factor in the development of international cooperation and peaceful coexistence, and the PDRY respects the USSR's peaceful foreign policy aimed at strengthening friendship and cooperation between all countries and peoples.

The document envisages that the two sides "will continue to make every effort for upholding international peace and security of the peoples, for deepening the relaxation of international tensions and for spreading detente to all parts of the globe, and embodying it in concrete forms of mutually advantageous cooperation between states, for settling international issues by peaceful means, for making the principle of non-use of force and effective law of international life, for removing any manifestations of the policy of hegemonism and expansionism from the practice of international relations. The sides will actively contribute to the cause of general and complete disarmament, including nuclear one, under effective international control".

In accordance with the treaty, the USSR and the PDRY "will continue the active struggle against the intrigues of imperialism, for final eradication of colonialism and racism in all their forms and manifestations".

"The sides will cooperate with each other and with other peaceloving states in supporting the just struggle of the peoples for their freedom, independence, sovereignty and social progress."

The document also says that the two contracting countries will "contribute in every way to ensuring a lasting and just peace in the Middle East and to achieving, with this aim in view, a comprehensive Middle East settlement". They will "promote the development of cooperation between Asian states, the establishment of relations of peace, good-neighbourliness and mutual trust between them and the creation of an effective security system in Asia on the basis of the joint efforts of all states of the continent".

The document envisages that the USSR and the PDRY "will consult each other on important international questions which have a direct bearing on the interests of the two countries".

"In the event of the origination of situations creating a threat to peace or a breach of international peace, the sides will strive to immediately enter into contact with each other for the purpose of coordinating their positions in the interests of removing the threat or restoring peace".

The treaty is concluded for a term of twenty years.

IZVESTIYA CORRESPONDENT ON PDRY'S REVOLUTION DAY

LD241527 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 October 1979 Morning Edition carries on page 4 a 1,300-word Aden dispatch by IZVESTIYA special correspondent Ye. Korshunov entitled "The Republic's March" and published under the rubric "14 October--The PDRY's Revolution Day."

In the dispatch Korshunov describes the "building of a new society" in the PDRY and the republic's successes in various spheres. He is shown weapons and ammunition, allegedly made in the United States, used by "gangs of mercenaries" who "invade" the republic "from time to time." Korshunov concludes by stressing the value of the Soviet Union's "selfless aid" to the republic.

AMBASSADOR STRAUSS CITED ON 'PROGRESS' IN EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TALKS

LD241416 Moscow TASS in English 1312 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Washington, October 24, TASS--TASS correspondent Vitaliy Gan reports:

The farce of a "peaceful settlement in the Middle East," being played by the USA, Israel and Egypt, has for its aim to prevent the satisfaction of the basic interests of Arab peoples, including the ensurance of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

This is evidenced, for instance, by a speech made in the House International Relations Committee by R. Strauss, the U.S. ambassador at large, who carries out various missions in the Middle East. He stated frankly that it is not even claimed that the talks on "Palestine autonomy", being conducted by the participants in the separate deal, will bring about a final settlement of all problems. The negotiators in fact ignore such problems as the status of the West Bank of the River Jordan and the Gaza Strip, or, in other words, actually recognize the occupation of these areas by Israel.

Cairo and Tel Aviv, which are guided in their policy of selfish interests, cannot even reach agreement on purely cosmetic measures. R. Strauss admits that there is not a single question the consideration of which would be finally completed. He stressed that the sides involved did not move a single step toward agreement. Nevertheless, the slow progress of the talks perfectly suits the plotters. R. Strauss said directly that As-Sadat and Begin are satisfied with the slow pace of the talks. What is most important,he said, is to continue the "peace process", or in other words, to create a semblance of "tough bargaining" and "progress" in order to mislead the Arab public.

Speaking of his forthcoming trip to the Middle East, R. Strauss warned that no political solutions of major events should be expected from it. As is reported by the New York TIMES, R. Strauss was strongly against any pressure being put on Israel. So an artificially created stalemate, which is needed by the USA for consolidating its positions in the Middle East, will be maintained at the talks.

EGYPTIAN VISIT BY PERRY-LED U.S. MILITARY DELEGATION NOTED

LD241513 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Oct 79 p 3 LD

[TASS report: "Military Links are being Strengthened"]

[Text] Cairo, 22 October--A U.S. military delegation headed by U.S. Under Secretary of Defense W. Perry has completed its visit to Egypt. During its stay in Cairo it held talks with the top Egyptian military leadership and the result of these talks was an accord on U.S. financial and technical assistance to Egypt.

In the words of Egyptian Defense Minister 'Ali, the U.S. delegation displayed "complete understanding" on the question of strengthening military cooperation with Egypt.

In this connection observers are stressing that the rapid "flourishing" of military links between Cairo and Washington is taking place under conditions of the "peace" with Israel recently concluded by Egypt.

IRANIAN RELIGIOUS FIGURE INTERVIEWED ON COUNTRY'S PROBLEMS

LD241950 Moscow TASS in English 1720 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, October 24, TASS--The prominent religious figure Shari'at-Madari has noted the serious economic difficulties experienced these days by Iran.

In an interview to the newspaper ETTELA'AT he said that the acutest problems in the country are unemployment, the idleness of many industrial enterprises, shortage of capital investments, and the exodus of Iranian specialists from the country "for fear of cruelties and persecutions". Shari'at-Madari said the authorities should not interfere in students' affairs, the universities and schools, he said, were among the main centres of the revolutionary movement and therefore I see no reason why students and pupils should not be allowed to engage in political activities and why their education process should be disrupted. Asked why only eight per cent of the electorate had taken part in the recent elections to city councils Shari'at-Madari said this was because the population no longer experienced the hopes and enthusiasm that existed at the initial stage of the revolution. Many of those who had faith in the ideals of the revolution are now disenchanted. Touching on the Kurdish problem Shari'at-Madari said that it was becoming more complicated with every day. At the same time he expressed hope that it could be settled by way of talks, given that both the central government and the Kurdish leadership showed "common sense and good will."

CONTINUING KURDISH CLASHES, 'CHAIN REACTION' IN OTHER AREAS

LD251343 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Oct 79 p 5 LD

[Correspondent A. Filippov dispatch: "Clashes Continue"]

[Text] Ankara, 21 October--Fierce battles took place today in Mahabad, where the insurgents waging the struggle for the granting of national and cultural autonomy to Iranian Kordestan have seized a considerable part of the city, reports from Tehran say. The authorities unsuccessfully used helicopters to help their beseiged subunits. It is also noted that in the regions of Sar Dasht, Marivan, Baneh and Saqqez the insurgents blockaded the garrisons of government troops and gendarme posts, destroying seven tanks during the attack and capturing a large quantity of weapons and ammunition. The province's main highways, including the freeway leading from Iran to Turkey, were again taken under insurgent control. However, the insurgents are not hindering civilian goods and passenger transport. Military transports are subject to attacks. It is reported that on the orders of the Iranian joint staff additional subunits of army units and military formations of Islamic organizations have been sent into regions of Kordestan. The military confrontation in Kordestan has already caused a chain reaction in regions where other national minorities live. Demonstrations by the population demanding respect for their national and democratic rights have taken place in Baluchestan, Khuzestan and Sistan.

TASS REPORTS CONTINUING MILITARY ACTION IN LEBANON

LD241136 Moscow TASS in English 1118 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, October 24, TASS--The situation in the Lebanese capital remains tense. Machine gun and submachinegun fire as well as explosions were to be heard in the central districts of the city and in the area of the sea port throughout the last night.

Armed formations of the conservative "Lebanese Front," using mortars, grenade launchers and large calibre machineguns, made several provocative sallies against the inter-Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon. As a result of exchanges of fire, the inter-Arab force has casualties--killed and wounded. The right-wing snipers have become more active, keeping under fire the main thoroughfares in the centre of Beirut and paralyzing the work of the sea port.

In the northern areas of Lebanon, in the districts of Alei and Metna, fierce armed clashes continue between individual units of the "Lebanese front" over a zone of influence, by the decision of the leadership of the country, government troops were dispatched there.

According to reports from south Lebanese districts, Israel and its puppets--Haddad's separatists--are going ahead with military preparations. Israeli overflights of southern Lebanon have become more frequent in recent days.

AL-ASAD HOLDS TALKS WITH YEREVAN LEADERS 17 OCT

JN172145 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 Oct 79 JN

[Text] Yerevan--At 1330 today, a meeting was held between President Hafiz al-Asad and the leaders of the Republic of Soviet Armenia at the headquarters of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia in Yerevan. The meeting was attended by the members of the Syrian delegation: Aleksey Vatchenko, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Supreme Soviet in the Ukraine [title as heard]; senior party and government officials in Soviet Armenia; the Soviet ambassador in Damascus; and the Syrian ambassador to the USSR.

Demirchyan, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party in the republic, delivered a speech at the beginning of the meeting. He welcomed President Hafiz al-Asad and his delegation, pointing out the strong ties of friendship between Syria and the Soviet Union. He then spoke briefly about the situation and accomplishments in Soviet Armenia.

The president replied by thanking the leaders of Soviet Armenia for their welcome and talked about Syria's accomplishments under the 8 March resolution under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. He also explained the situation in the Arab region and the Arab nation's struggle against Zionist aggression, supported by imperialist forces. The president expressed our people's appreciation for the Soviet support for the struggle of the Arab nation, which is currently resisting a dangerous plot against its existence. This plot is represented in the Camp David accords and what they entail.

In conclusion, the president again expressed his thanks for the welcome accorded him and his delegation in Soviet Armenia.

'ARAFAT MEETS IN DAMASCUS WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT

LD241336 Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Damascus, October 24, TASS--Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad met with Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. The situation in the Middle East was considered during the conversation. Much attention was given to the Palestinian problem and the stand of the sides concerned.

Hafiz al-Asad and Yasir 'Arafat also discussed questions of preparation for the forthcoming conference of the heads of Arab states.

IDEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE SPEECHES BY DEMICHEV, OTHERS REPORTED

LD241135 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Oct 79 pp 2-3 LD

[TASS report: "All-Union Conference of Ideological Workers: Loyalty to Communism's Ideals"]

[Excerpts] An all-union conference of ideological workers was held in the Great Kremlin Palace in Moscow 16-17 October.

On the concluding day of the conference's work the assembled people warmly greeted Comrades M.A. Suslov, P.N. Demichev, B.N. Ponomarev, I.V. Kapitonov, V.I. Dolgikh, M.V. Zimyanin and M.S. Gorbachev.

In a businesslike manner and with great interest the conference participants discussed the report "Cause of the Whole Party" by M.A. Suslov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and progress in fulfilling the party Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political Education Work." This resolution, it was pointed out at the conference, has had a considerable influence on further raising the quality and effectiveness of ideological and political, labor and moral education, taking into account the special features of different groups of working people.

S.G. Lapin, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, devoted much attention to enhancing the quality of broadcasts and to the need for television and radio broadcasting to have more modern technical equipment. It is important for television and radio broadcasts to meet Soviet people's increased educational and cultural standards and requirements and for programs to accord with the dynamic nature of socioeconomic processes and to take account of the nature of the sharply intensified ideological struggle in the international arena. Television, the speaker emphasized, has now become one of the chief channels of foreign and domestic policy information.

The chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting spoke about television's cooperation with all forms of art. He emphasized that the movies of L.I. Brezhnev's books "Malaya Zemlya" and "Rebirth" have elicited an exciting response from viewers.

Thanks to the development of space communications, more than 80 percent of the country's population are able to watch broadcasts from Moscow. Describing the scale of the work connected with television and radio preparations for the Olympic Games, the speaker reported that, according to preliminary figures, approximately 2 billion people will watch the 1980 Olympiad.

Soviet writers have always deemed it a high honor to propagandize the Leninist party's ideas, policies and cause, G.M. Markov, first secretary of the USSR Writers Union Board, pointed out. The modern literary process and social and literary life show that a further deepening of the established harmony in the party's relations with the artistic intelligentsia has occurred in the years since the 25th CPSU Congress. The exciting, creative activities of the party and the people are the chief source of inspiration for masters of literature. The speakers emphasized that literature's close and increasingly strong link with life is the right way to new artistic discoveries.

Soviet writers, he said, have always worked in an atmosphere of implacable struggle against our foreign ideological enemies. Every day anti-Sovietists pour out floods of most malicious slander against multinational Soviet literature. The new methods in their tactics, which use "good intentions" as cover, require us to work still more actively and effectively to educate every literary worker.

B.N. Pastukhov, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, pointed out that the party has presented the Komsomol with a rich arsenal of ideological means and sends the best cadres to work with young people. Komsomol committees see it as their task to raise all the Komsomol's ideological and political work to a qualitatively new level under the leadership of party organizations.

The speaker emphasized Soviet young people's great interest in their country's history. The great Lenin and the Communist Party's loyal sons and daughters have always been and will be a moral example to them. The great interest which young men and women have in books in the series "Lives of Remarkable People" is significant. The proposals to create analogous movie and graphic series obviously merit attention.

Reminding the audience that the education process must be continuous, the Komsomol Central Committee first secretary declared that the Komsomol sees it as its task to increase the attention paid to the formation of the young family and to work at places of residence and in hostels, where more than 9 million young men and women now live. What is still the weakest link in work with adolescents and children--house, district, microregion--demands special attention.

Komsomol members and all Soviet youth are now preparing with great enthusiasm to celebrate the 110th anniversary of Vladimir Ilich Lenin's birth. On the eve of this memorable date there will be an all-union Leninist check, which will be a review of young people's loyalty to the leader's immortal behests and a report to the party and the people by every Komsomol member and all Komsomol cells.

P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Minister of Culture, took the floor.

The Central Committee's resolution and this conference, he said, attest to the tremendous work which our party does on the whole front of communist building. Over the past 15 years truly majestic successes have been achieved in all spheres under the fruitful influence of the CPSU Central Committee October (1964) Plenum, which restored Leninist norms and principles of leadership, and we take rightful pride in this.

Cultural workers and artists, P.N. Demichev said, greeted the CPSU Central Committee resolution with great interest and attention and have mounted active work to implement it. In our activities we proceed from the premise that the role of culture, particularly labor culture and political culture, increases immeasurably under conditions of developed socialism, culture and art have become an organic constituent part of the Soviet way of life, and their impact on all aspects of social life, on improving social relations and on molding the new person has increased.

"Socialist culture," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev has emphasized, "by absorbing all that is best...enriches people's interior world and makes their life brighter and more interesting. It helps us better to understand the meaning of our labor and our struggle and the grandeur of our goals."

Our party's Leninist policy in the cultural sphere has enabled us, contrary to our enemies' prophesies, not only to preserve but also to multiply many times over the foremost traditions of Soviet culture and to create a great new art organically embodying party-mindedness and popular spirit, humanism and genuine democratism, a solicitous attitude toward the cultural property of all peoples, a high level of artistic skill and broad scope of amateur popular creativity.

The decisions of the 23d, 24th and 25th CPSU congresses, the CPSU Central Committee resolutions on questions of ideology and culture and the works of that outstanding Marxist-Leninist Leonid Ilich Brezhnev have determined a new stage of cultural building in our country. A clear, long-term program of the people's comprehensive education has been elaborated in accordance with the conditions of developed socialism and the gradual transition to communist social relations.

Resolving the task of molding the new person and of the individual's comprehensive and harmonious development, our society devotes great attention to broadening the scale of cultural building, raising the ideological and artistic standard of art and improving the substance of all cultural and educational work. Over the past 10 years an average of six new club establishments and five libraries have been commissioned in our country every day. New museums, culture parks, music and art schools and so forth are being created. We are witnessing the process of the increasing complexity and differentiation of the masses' spiritual and cultural requirements.

The party Central Committee, very aware of the urgent requirements for cultural building, sets us new tasks in good time and orients us toward new work methods and forms, P.N. Demichev emphasized. The centralization of library and club affairs, the creation of cultural complexes and a creative approach to work--all this considerably enhances the social role of the cultural sphere. Thus the centralization of libraries in accordance with the CPSU Central Committee resolution increases the effectiveness of the use of book stocks and makes it possible to take the interests of different categories of the population more fully into account. More than 3,000 library systems and more than 7,000 cultural complexes and centralized club systems have already been created in the country. The centralization of libraries is fully complete in a number of republics and oblasts.

The CPSU Central Committee resolution orients us toward raising the ideological effectiveness of culture. Active propaganda of the 25th CPSU Congress decisions, the new USSR Constitution and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's books and speeches and participation in major political measures have become a very important constituent part of all mass cultural work.

Young people's aesthetic education is an object of our special concern. Young people crave culture and art. Therefore it is important to create everywhere a cultural and aesthetic environment which helps to shape active life stances and socialist traditions and helps to overcome negative manifestations in people's mentality and behavior.

The increase in working people's free time is naturally giving rise to a new scale and new forms of mass leisure. The question of correct, productive use of free time concerns very diverse spheres of culture. Good organization of mass measures and festivals, the introduction of new rites and the stepping up of work at places of residence are a real requirement of social life.

Work forms accessible to the broad masses and according with people's inner desires and interests are increasingly becoming part of our life. This is being promoted by pooling the efforts of cultural establishments with trade union, Komsomol and sports organizations and improving the coordination of all our activities.

The increased scale of socioeconomic transformations over vast territories of the country, the giant building sites of communism and the involvement of different geographical regions in cultural building pose again the tasks of current and long-term planning, of formulating norms of cultural building and of taking account of the population's regional and national, professional and age characteristics.

We are faced with many responsible new tasks, the speaker went on to say, in the matter of improving cultural work in the countryside. Last January's all-union conference of cultural workers, which was sent a greetings message by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, who set in his letter very important tasks in the sphere of rural culture, emphasized that the need to resolve certain key problems of rural culture is dictated by urgent socioeconomic tasks. We note with satisfaction that much is already being done to implement the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decisions on stepping up cultural services for the rural population. Unfortunately, however, there are still many difficulties connected with the unsatisfactory state of the material base of rural culture, with the high turnover among cultural and educational worker cadres and with the shortage of musical instruments and modern stage equipment. The task set by the 24th CPSU Congress of creating rayon houses of culture, which play a very important role, including as methodological centers where progressive experience is accumulated, generalized and disseminated, has still not been resolved.

Increased concern for improving the housing, domestic and material living conditions of cultural workers and raising their professional standards is an important question for us. We are counting here on the assistance of local party and soviet organs.

Soviet art is playing an increasing role in the masses' ideological education, P.N. Demichev continued. In 1978 the country's theaters, concert organizations and circuses were visited by 78 million more people than in 1965. The audience for amateur art concerts has more than doubled. The party's gigantic creative activity and the people's heroic achievements find talented artistic expression in the best creations of masters of art. New facets are revealed in the Leninist, historical-revolutionary theme and in the theme of the people's heroic combat and labor exploit. Topical problems of the Soviet person's production and social life and of his spiritual and moral strivings are actively intruding into art.

Soviet art is resolutely struggling against the antipodes of communist morality, against bourgeois philistinism and consumerism and against everything that hinders our progress.

The principles of socialist art, which have played the determining role in strengthening the positions of progressive democratic culture throughout the world, are now being subjected to increasingly malicious attacks by the forces of reaction. They are attacking particularly fiercely the Leninist principle of art's party-mindedness and popular spirit, which supposedly restricts freedom of creativity.

Freedom of artistic creativity, which has really been proved by socialist culture's achievements of worldwide historic significance and which is proclaimed and guaranteed by the new USSR Constitution, opens up very broad scope for quest and for true innovation--as evidenced by the blossoming of socialist culture.

Recent years have been marked by the struggle against tendencies to "deheroize" in the sphere of literature and art. The CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political Education Work" especially emphasizes the need to create new works of great talent reflecting the Soviet people's heroic achievements, and our artists take a very responsible attitude to this task. Comrade M.A. Suslov's report quite rightly points out that, in addition to a more profound and fruitful investigation of the modern hero--the builder of communism--and bold treatment of the complex, urgent problems of our time, in places we can perceive a tendency to go off into shallow subjects, superficial judgments on modern times and distorted ideas about the past.

Work on the problem of the modern hero--the builder of the new society--must correspond to the considerably increased tasks of communist building and education.

The party's Leninist foreign policy and the consistent and persistent activities of the Central Committee, the Soviet Government and L.I. Brezhnev, that indefatigable fighter for peace and progress, have immeasurably strengthened our country's international position. The international climate has changed, as a result of which broad opportunities have been opened up for cultural cooperation with foreign countries.

Cultural exchanges with other countries have more than trebled over the past 15 years. We have cultural agreements with 120 countries.

The strengthening and development of cultural cooperation with the fraternal socialist countries is of paramount significance. It has risen to a new level characterized by the deepening of creative cooperation in all spheres of cultural life. Cultural cooperation with developing countries is expanding.

The high level of socialist art and the force of its impact on the masses are not to the liking of the West's reactionary circles. By increasing state control and putting forward various kinds of financial and other demands, they would like to slow down the development of cultural exchanges with the Soviet Union. We increasingly encounter various sorts of anti-Soviet campaigns, provocations and attempts to block our measures. We take active steps to expose and suppress hostile forces' intrigues.

Socialist culture's increasing strength and increasing impact on social life, P.N. Demichev said in conclusion, are making it an effective factor in communist building and education and in spreading the truth about socialism and an important means in the struggle for peace and friendship among peoples and for the triumph of the ideas of humanism and social progress.

Traveling a great path together with the people over the six decades of its existence, F.T. Yermash, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography, said the Soviet cinema has become the party's mighty ideological weapon. At the same time the cinema has become a developed sector of socialist culture and economy.

The party's instruction that art is called on to meet the people's increased spiritual needs is binding on masters of the cinema. This presupposes high exactingness toward one's creativity, profound critical analysis of the processes of cinema art, a truly innovatory quest for creative solutions and the creation of works worthy of our age.

The Soviet cinema is rightly called the art of heroic example. The party Central Committee resolution on questions of ideology orients all cinema figures toward further developing and strengthening precisely these traditions of our art. The speaker gave an assurance that Soviet cinema workers will continue to devote their strength, talent and ability to the great cause of the party and the people, to the cause of communism.

N.A. Shchelokov, USSR minister of internal affairs, recalled that high state and social discipline, strong socialist law and order and active surmounting of survivals from the past which are alien to our society are of exceptional significance in resolving the tasks of communist building.

Law and order, legality and high culture in human relations are an important aspect of the Soviet way of life, he pointed out. This is why the party always makes high demands in everything here. Party decisions have armed all organizations with a concrete, comprehensive program of joint action aimed at raising the standard of ideological education work and strengthening conscious discipline and public order under conditions of mature socialism.

The improvement of legislation, the improvement of the activities of law-protection organs and the enhancement of public activeness in safeguarding law and order are creating the necessary conditions for fulfilling the party's instructions on eradicating violations of law and order, crime and the factors causing it. The minister emphasized the great significance and great assistance of the mass news media in the struggle for high state and public discipline.

TASS General Director S.A. Losev dwelt in his speech on the need to broaden the active offensive against the positions of bourgeois propaganda and shared some views on improving the level of our people's information via the Soviet press. He pointed out that the constant assistance of scientific institutes is needed to improve the substance and ideological thrust of journalists' articles and to enhance their multifaceted, well-reasoned nature. In addition, it is necessary to enhance the up-to-date nature of information.

The speaker proposed a thorough study of the possibilities of equipping the editorial offices of RSFSR kray and oblast newspapers with direct photographic links with TASS and suggested that this be provided for in the 11th 5-Year Plan. He raised the question of the advisability of organizing the training in VUZes of skilled journalist cadres for TASS and republic news agencies.

B.I. Stukalin, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and the Book Trade, emphasized the outstanding significance of the publication of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's works in the life of the party and the whole people. The remarkable books "Malaya Zemlya," "Rebirth" and "the Virgin Lands," published in millions of copies, have achieved exceptional popularity among the broad reading masses both in our country and abroad.

The speaker cited facts attesting to the growing worldwide interest in Soviet books. The results of the recent Moscow international book exhibition and fair were impressive. Soviet organizations concluded more than 5,000 contracts and preliminary agreements to buy and sell publications. Comprehensive, businesslike and friendly relations between Soviet publishers and their partners in socialist countries and progressive publishing organizations in developing and capitalist states enjoyed further development.

The chairman of the State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and the Book Trade acknowledged the fairness of criticisms of book publishers made at the conference and gave an assurance that they will be taken into consideration in practical work.

L.N. Tolkunov, chairman of the APN Board, devoted attention in his speech to the forms and methods of foreign policy propaganda.

He pointed out that the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, TASS, APN and other of the country's propaganda organs are doing great work to provide profound, systematic coverage of the achievements and prospects of real socialism, the Soviet economy, the moral foundations of our society and the moral makeup of the Soviet persons.

APN has outlined and is implementing a number of measures to further enhance the effectiveness of propaganda activities, primarily to increase their up-to-date and offensive nature.

This concluded the discussion of the question of progress in fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political Education Work."

With great enthusiasm the gathering adopted a letter to the CPSU Central Committee and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev.

The participants in the All-Union Conference of Ideological Workers visited a number of industrial enterprises and research establishments in Moscow and sovkhozes and kolkhozes in the Moscow region and exchanged experience of mass political work.

Masters of the arts gave a grand concert for the conference participants in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses.

GRISHIN CHAIRS MEETING ON REVOLUTIONARY ANNIVERSARY PREPARATIONS

LD241050 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0430 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] A regular meeting of the Moscow Gorkom commission on preparations and conduct of celebrations of the 62d anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution was held on 23 October under the chairmanship of Comrade Grishin, first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom. The question of preparations for the workers demonstration on Red Square on 7 November was discussed together with the city's artistic decorations and the columns of the demonstration.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL HAILS OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY, PEACE INITIATIVE

LD241545 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "New Successes as We Approach October"]

[Excerpt] The socialist countries' peoples the international working class and its militant vanguard--the communist and workers parties--and all those struggling against imperialism and for peace, democracy, national independence and socialism will celebrate with us the 62d anniversary of October. The great army of labor's time-proven slogan "Proletarians of All Countries, Unite!" resounds like to tocsin across the globe. True to the cause of proletarian internationalism, Lenin's party and the Soviet people extend warm greetings to their class brothers on the eve of this great date. May the mighty and invincible union of the three main revolutionary forces of our time--world socialism, the international proletariat and the national liberation movement--strengthen.

Socialism and peace are inseparable. "Peace to the Peoples," the October Revolution proclaimed and since the time the USSR's consistently peace-loving foreign policy has become an important factor in international relations and has won the respect and trust of all progressive mankind. The program of further struggle for peace, international cooperation and the people's freedom and independence adopted by the 25th CPSU Congress is being successfully fulfilled. New proof of this is the Soviet initiative on the problems of military detente and disarmament put forward in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's recent Berlin speech. This initiative has afforded an opportunity to prevent a further upswing of the arms race, embark on real disarmament and safeguard and augment the fruits of what has already been achieved in detente and peaceful cooperation. The CPSU Central Committee calls on the peoples of the world to intensify the struggle to achieve these noble aims and eliminate the threat of a new world war.

The great Soviet people--the builders of communism and champions of peace throughout the world--are approaching the holiday rallied closely around their beloved party. The words which follow evoke a warm res onse in millions of hearts:

"Long live the Leninist Communist Party of the Soviet Union--the inspirer and organizer of the victorious October Revolution and Soviet society's leading and guiding force!

"Long live the great and inviolable unity of party and people!"

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

CSA: HARVESTING FINISHED IN MOST REGIONS

LD241905 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[T xt] Today the USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported on the progress of harvesting work on the plantations of late crops. On the whole it is coming to an end. By the beginning of the week the harvesting of rice had been carried out on 94 percent of the whole area. It has been completed in the Ukraine. In this republic and also in the North Caucasus and the Altay the farmers are picking beets. This year this work has been carried out early. The initiators of the beet-growing competition, the farmers of Yampolskiy Rayon of Vinnitskay Oblast, are finishing the year with good results. On average, each hectare yields more than 400 quintals of roots here. Moreover, the beets are of good quality with high sugar content. All the work has been carried out without manual labor.

In Moldavia the harvesting of sunflower for grain has taken place in an organized manner. Its threshing is being completed in Georgia and the Ukraine. In the soya harvest 400,000 hectares remain to be collected. In the majority of agricultural regions, winter sowing has been completed. Now winter crops have occupied 40.9 million hectares. At present, sowing is still going on in the Transcaucasus and the Central Asian republics. It is expected that on the whole the plan for winter sowing will be successfully fulfilled. In many kolkhozes and sovkhozes the plowing of winter fallow is continuing. Four-fifths of this work has been fulfilled.

CSA: COTTON HARVEST GOAL IS 70 PERCENT COMPLETE

LD241900 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] On the affairs of workers in the fields. Today we received a report from the USSR Central Statistical Administration that the farms of Ivanovskaya, Vologodskaya, Kostromskaya and Kaliningradskaya oblasts and Khabarovskiy Kray have fulfilled their socialist pledges for the sale of grain to the state. The last harvesting units are leaving the grain fields. Almost 25 million hectares was occuped this year [nynche] by grain in Kazakhstan. Today the machine operators are threshing wheat on the last 100,000 hectares. Work is being completed on the fields of beets and potatoes, but harvest work is still in full swing on the cotton fields. To date, over the country as a whole 6.24 million tons of raw cotton has reached procurement points. This is more than 70 percent of the planned task. The snow-white bales are mounting up in Uzbekistan, Turkmenia and other republics of Central Asia and the in the south of Kazakhstan. Azerbaijan cotton farmers have already overfulfilled the task and are continuing collection of one of the most technical crops.

PRAVDA HIGHLIGHTS FARMERS', PROCUREMENT WORKERS' TASKS

LD241459 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "The Harvest Enters the Granaries"]

[Text] The autumn sky is overcast, the rains have become more frequent and the earth is being chilled by cold winds. The farmers are using every good moment to gather the harvest as quickly as possible and to protect the truck-farming and orchard crops. The increased amount of technical equipment augments the people's strength tenfold and helps them to maintain the pace of agricultural work during bad weather.

In implementing the 25th CPSU Congress decisions, party and soviet organs and rural workers have done much to increase production and procurement of potatoes, vegetables and fruits. During recent years the material-technical base of kolkhozes and sovkhozes has been strengthened. Around industrial centres specialized farms and hot house combines are being created. Despite difficult weather conditions a good yield of truck-farming crops has been obtained this year in the majority of regions. There is every possibility of procuring 17.2 million tons of potatoes, 17.8 million tons of vegetables and 5.9 million tons of fruit and berries.

Farms in Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Tadzhikistan, Armenia, and Kirgizia have successfully fulfilled or are near to fulfilling the targets for vegetable purchases. Not long ago news arrived from Moldavia of a hard-earned victory for farmers of the very large Slobodzeyskiy Rayon: Here socialist pledges have been exceeded--240,000 tons of vegetables have been sold to the state. All agricultural workers are trying to emulate the competition stalwarts.

The harvesting and procurement of potatoes is a shock section in the field production process. The rate of this work is higher than last year. By mid-October the harvest had been gathered from 97 per cent of the cropping areas. Nonetheless, the low quality of the harvesting in a number of places is cause for alarm. For example, on the Mayak Kolkhoz, Kasimovskiy Rayon, Ryazanskaya Oblast, after lifting by combine the tubers were not gathered up and losses amount to 40 quintals per hectare. The harvest is also being lost in a number of farms in the Kirovskaya, Penzenskaya and Gorkovskaya oblasts and in the Mordovskaya ASSR. The duty of party and soviet organs is to increase the responsibility of farm managers for the organization of this matter. Correct action is being taken in those areas where work quality is monitored strictly and each harvested field is thoroughly checked. One of the efficient methods for reducing losses is the replowing of plantations. The lifting of the tubers took place in rainy weather and some of them remained in the soil. That is why replowing makes it possible to gather much extra produce.

Preservation of the crops depends not only on the farmers, but also on transport, procurement and trade workers. The cold weather is approaching and it is important in the remaining few days to assiduously and thriftily put all the crops under secure cover. The struggle against losses and for high quality harvesting is a matter of paramount importance. Experience shows that success is promoted by developing direct links between farms and processing and trade enterprises. The example of Moscow and Moskovskaya Oblast is instructive--this season they prepared about 100 reception and delivery centers and procurers will receive directly a significant part of the total amount of produce purchases locally. Procurement of vegetables and potatoes via direct links between field, store and storage facilities is increasing in scope in Leningradskaya, Kiyevskaya, Minskaya and Donetskaya oblasts. This progressive form is proving its worth and needs developing, in every way possible, by fitting out farms with equipment, weighing machines, and loading and unloading facilities.

It is very important to process truck farming and orchard produce in greater and greater quantities. Meanwhile this task is not being successfully fulfilled everywhere. In Poltavskaya Oblast, for instance, they have had a good vegetable and fruit harvest. However, the food industry here has only one canning factory--at Piryatin, and that is of limited capacity. Projects for the plant's modernization have been drawn up twice, but so far the issue has not been settled. Because of the poor resources of canning enterprises in several of the country's regions vegetables are accumulating at reception centers, losing quality. They are sometimes allowed to spoil. The planning organs and the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry must draw conclusions from this season's lessons and build up industry's capacities as quickly as possible for processing agricultural produce.

Much remains to be done to strengthen the material-technical base of vegetable and fruit storage. With every passing year this is expanding and new installations are coming into operation. But in a number of cases schedules for this construction work are being violated. Thus the Saratovskiy Oblispolkom decided to build a 1,000-ton vegetable depository in Balakovo. Two years have elapsed and they still have not even started the work. And little attention is being paid to the quality of the buildings. No sooner, for instance, had they finished erecting a 1,600-ton storehouse in Saratov's Zavodskiy Rayon, than flaws came to light--the roof began to leak and the heat-control system broke down. How many times was this mentioned in oblast organizations and in the people's control committee, and yet the situation is not changing.

The USSR Ministry of Trade, Tsentrosoyuz and their local organs directly insure the uninterrupted supply of potatoes and fruit to the population. They must take available resources more fully into account and store the maximum quantity of produce for sale in fresh condition and for winter storage.

The duty of party committees is to increase precision on the part of farm managers in fulfilling potato, vegetable and fruit procurement plans and assure strict observance of contractual pledges, and they must strengthen cooperation between farmers and the associated workers. Tens of thousands of communists are employed in key sectors of the vegetable production process. By personal example in their labor they are called to lead socialist competition to attain high end results. We must lavish care and attention on those who work in the fields, at vegetable depots and in storehouses. And create conditions for people to perform fruitful work!

The quick conclusion of the harvest without losses and the fulfillment of plans and pledges in the sale of produce to the state--this is a matter of honor for all those taking part in the autumn harvest toil. On the threshold of the 62d Great October anniversary the CPSU Central Committee makes this appeal:

"Working people in agriculture and procurement, transport, processing and trade enterprises and organizations! Strive to insure that every kilogram of field and livestock produce is preserved and utilized for the good of the people!"

PRAVDA CARRIES CSA REPORT ON UKRAINE GRAIN DELIVERIES

LD241335 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[USSR Central Statistical Administration report: "Grain for the Motherland"]

[Excerpt] The agricultural workers of Ternopolskaya, Chernovitskaya, Lvovskaya and Ivano-Frankovskaya oblasts have fulfilled the plan for the sale of grain to the state.

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Ternopolskaya Oblast have delivered 405,000 tons of grain to the motherland; plans for the sale of wheat and barley have been overfulfilled. The plan for the sale of rye has been overfulfilled almost 200 percent.

Farms in Chernovitskaya Oblast have delivered 114,000 tons of grain procurement points. Plans for sale to the state of wheat, rye, pulse crops and barley have been considerably overfulfilled.

Farmers in Lvovskaya Oblast have sold 106,000 tons of grain to the state. The plan for the sale of wheat has been fulfilled 160 percent, that for oats, 121 percent.

Some 62,000 tons of grain have been delivered to grain reception points from kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Ivano-Frankovskaya Oblast. The plan for the sale of wheat and barley has been overfulfilled.

KIEV REVIEWS GRAIN, SUGAR BEET, POTATO HARVESTS

AU241230 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 23 Oct 79 AU

[Summary] The agricultural year is nearing completion. The time is coming to sum up work results. "The farmers of seven oblasts in the republic--Khmelnitskaya, Rovenskaya, Volynskaya, Ternopolskaya, Chernovitskaya, Lvovskaya and Ivano-Frankovskaya--have fulfilled the plan for grain sales and are continuing deliveries to grain reception centers. Certainly it is a significant victory because all of us are aware under what conditions the crop had to be obtained. Nonetheless, the smooth organization of labor, the wide application of the Ipatovskiy method, the struggle against losses--all that has brought successes. The experience won by machine operators in the oblasts listed above undoubtedly deserves great attention and certainly will be studied by the others, because the thing in question is the most valuable: It is bread.

"Sugar beet digging is at present the biggest concern. As the Central Statistical Administration reports, roots have been gathered from 89 percent of the total area. The pace of gathering is higher than average, but even if the pace on the whole is increasing, one must not overlook the fact that some oblasts are falling short of the digging schedule. That applies to Lvovskaya, Cherkasskaya, Chernovitskaya, Odesskaya, Kirovogradskaya and some other oblasts."

The Ukraine consumer unions have already purchased 1,693,000 tons of potatoes, or 106 percent of the plan. Procurement centers have been delivered 111,000 tons more potatoes than by the same time last year. A great deal has been done by cooperative societies to purchase potatoes from the people. Steps have been taken to supply potatoes to industrial centers in Donbass and the Dnepr region, to health resorts in the Crimea and Odesskaya Oblast and to other consumers. State and cooperative trade organizations have stored sufficient potatoes to supply the population between the two seasons. For that purpose more than 1.1 million tons of potatoes have been amassed in storehouses. That amount exceeds both the plan and last-year's index.

FOUR RSFSR OBLASTS FULFILL GRAIN SALE PLEDGES

LD241855 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 24 Oct 79 LD

[Text] We have just received this report from the USSR Central Statistical Administration: The farmers of Ivanovskaya, Vologodskaya, Kostromskaya and Kaliningradskaya oblasts and Khabarovskiy Kray have fulfilled their socialist pledges for sales of grain to the state. From the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Ivanovskaya Oblast, the state granaries have received 98,000 tons of grain; farms in Vologodskaya Oblast have shipped 82,000 tons of it to procurement centers; the workers of Kostromskaya Oblast have sold 69,000 tons of grain to the state. The farms of all these oblasts have secured for themselves seed grain for next year's harvest. Sales of grain to the state are continuing.

GRAIN DELIVERY FIGURES FOR KAZAKHSTAN OBLASTS

AU241054 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1510 GMT 23 Oct 79 AU

[Text] While implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the July 1978 CPSU Central Committee plenum, the agricultural laborers of Dzhambulskaya, Vostochno-Kazakhstanskaya, Taldy-Kurganskaya and Kzyl-Ordinskaya oblasts have successfully fulfilled the state plan for grain sale to the state.

Dzhambulskaya Oblast kolkhozes and sovkhozes have overfulfilled their socialist pledges and sold to the state 538,000 tons of grain. The plans for selling wheat and barley to the state have been overfulfilled.

Vostochno-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast farms have delivered 508,000 tons of grain to grain procurement centers. The plan for wheat and bean crop sales to the state has been overfulfilled.

Taldy-Kurganskaya Oblast farms have fulfilled socialist pledges and sold to the state 450,000 tons of grain. The plan for the sales of wheat, corn and barley has been overfulfilled.

Kzyl-Ordinskaya Oblast farms have fulfilled their socialist pledges for rice sales and sold to the state 314,000 tons of rice.

The kolkhozes and sovkhozes of those oblasts have fully provided themselves with seeds for the 1980 crop.

Even if the total volume of purchases has been exceeded, the farms of Vostochno-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast fell short of the plan for corn sales, those of Dzambulskaya Oblast fell short in corn sales too and those of Taldy-Kurganskaya in rice sales.

The sales of grain to the state are continuing.

Grain and bean crop threshing has been completed in Kokchetavskaya, Kustanayskaya, Pavlodarskaya, Turgayskaya and Tselinogradskaya oblasts. The area under grain and bean crops in those oblasts amounted to nearly 14 million hectares, or more than a half of the republic's grain area. Severo-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast farms, where the harvest began later than in the other oblasts and continued under exceptionally difficult weather conditions, are [words indistinct] completing threshing.

In the south and southeast of the republic the last thousands of hectares of rice are being harvested. In the lower reaches of the Syr-Darya, the main rice-growing area of Kazakhstan, the work has for the most part been completed. It is also nearing completion in Alama-Atinskaya Oblast. Taldy-Kurganskaya and Chimkentskaya oblasts are lagging somewhat behind the former.

In south Kazakhstan and Semirechye, corn for grain has been gathered on 74,000 hectares, or 65 percent of the total sown.

Sugar beet digging is nearing completion. Dzhambulskaya Oblast beet growers, with nearly half of the republic's sugar beet fields, are leading in that work.

The mass picking of raw cotton has developed in Chimkentskaya Oblast. The republic is close to completing potato digging and vegetable picking. The harvest of sunflowers and other late crops is continuing.